The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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Wm. H. Ukoetter
1902

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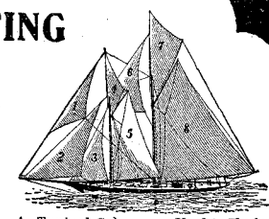

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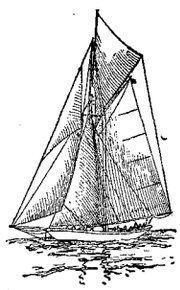

An American Sloop Yacht Under Racing Rig (*From the Standard Dictionary*)

YACHTING AND NAUTICAL WORDS and terms, like those of every other department of this great dictionary, were edited by specialists of high standing. All yachting terms were under the direct editorial supervision of **W. P. Stephens, Yachting Editor of Forest and Stream.** All Naval and Nautical terms were under the direct editorial supervision of **Rear-Admiral Stephen B. Luce, U. S. N., President U. S. Naval Institute.**

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Questions Whose Answers Will Help Post You in Yachting Lore

PARTS OF THE YACHT

The meaning of certain parts of every yacht must be understood before one can have a clear idea of a race. Do you know what is the

BOW BEAM BOWSPRIT GAFF SHROUDS STEP
STERN MAST FREEBOARD BLOCKS SHEETS STAYS
KEEL HELM RUNNERS BOOM SPREADER PORT
MARTINGALE HALYARDS RUDDER STARBOARD?

PARTS OF SAILS

The parts of sails are often mentioned. Do you know where is the

HEAD FOOT PEAK LUFF LEACH THROAT TACK CLEW?

RACING TERMS

Knowledge of a few of the terms used in yacht racing is essential to understanding the press reports. What is a

STAKE-BOAT MARK-BOAT KNOT LEG BUOY HANDICAP FOUL?

NAMES OF SAILS

No one can adequately understand a yacht race without knowing the various sails. Below are names of some. Do you know which is the

MAINSAIL JIB-TOPSAIL SPRIT-TOPSAIL BALLOON JIB
JIB FORESAIL CLUB-TOPSAIL GAFF-TOPSAIL
STAYSAIL FLYING JIB SPINNAKER FORESAIL
FORETOPMAST-STAYSAIL MAINTOPMAST-STAYSAIL
FORE STAYSAIL FORE GAFF-TOPSAIL?

SAILING TERMS

One can not understand the movements of the yachts when reading a description of a yacht race unless he understands such terms as

TACK LUFF CLOSE-HAULED LEEWARD FULL-AND-BY
WEAR REACH WINDWARD DEAD-TO RAP-FULL
JIBE BEAT LIFT SHEETS ABACK IN STOPS
A-LEE! WEATHER IN IRONS.

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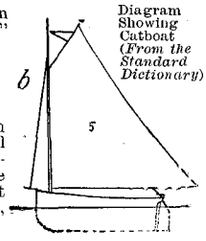

Diagram Showing Catboat (*From the Standard Dictionary*)

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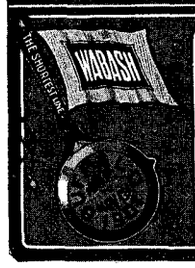

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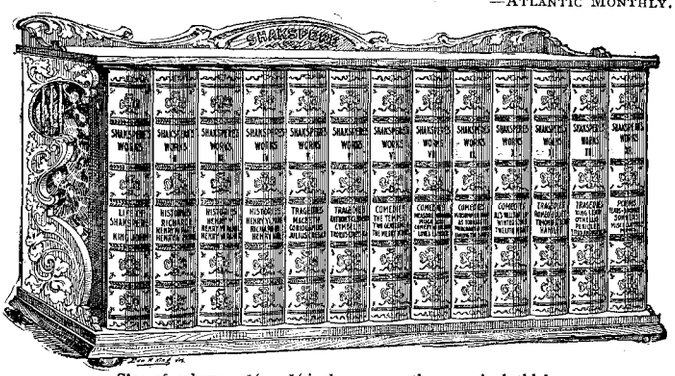

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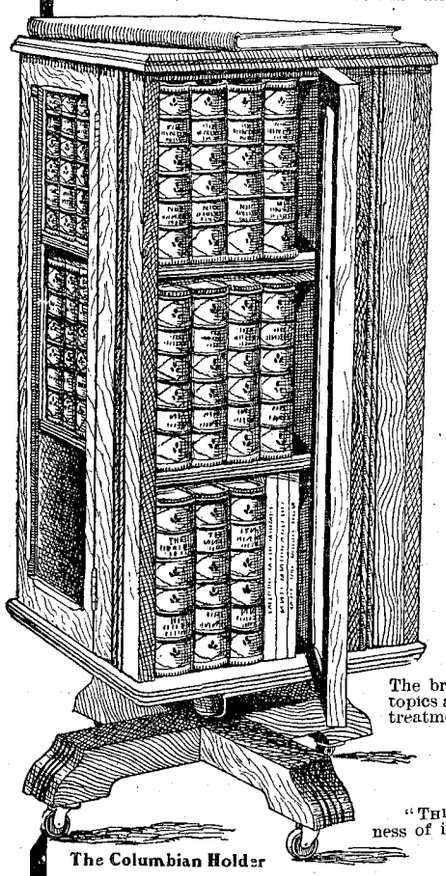

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE SCHLEY INQUIRY.

CONSIDERABLE satisfaction is expressed by many newspapers at the appointment of a court of inquiry to investigate the charges that have been made against Rear-Admiral Schley in various quarters ever since the naval battle of Santiago. The court's findings, as the New York *Tribune* says, "ought to settle at once and forever a passionate controversy which has already too long afflicted the navy and the whole country." A similar feeling is expressed by many other papers. "The entire country, in our judgment," declares the New York *Press*, "is heartily sick of the Sampson-Schley controversy," and the Chicago *Daily News* exclaims: "Is the bickering over this disagreeable episode in our naval history never to stop? Whatever may be the public opinion as to the respective merits of Sampson and Schley, nothing is more certain than that the public is getting very tired of this squabbling among men who are supposed to be models of dignity and courtliness."

The charges against the admiral and the replies by his friends are so voluminous and involved that it is expected that the court will consume weeks in hearing them. The main charges, however, and the replies to them, are given as follows by the Philadelphia *Ledger*:

"The charges against Schley are these:

"That instead of going on to Santiago he lingered for several days at Cienfuegos without ascertaining that Cervera was not there, until the arrival of Captain McCalla. But the reason for this delay has just been disclosed by Rear-Admiral Evans, who says that all the captains had been given a code of signals with which to communicate with the rebels on shore except the captain of the *Brooklyn* and Commodore Schley. Why Schley was kept in ignorance of the signals and code is one of the points of inquiry to come before the court.

"That, having almost reached Santiago, he turned back, disobeying an order to coal at sea, but afterward coaled and returned. To this Schley makes answer by producing a letter from Sampson, omitted from the correspondence officially published, in which Sampson expressed the opinion that if Cervera had gone to Santiago he would have to come out and make for Cienfuegos or Havana, and directing Schley to guard Cienfuegos.

"That in the battle the *Brooklyn* ran away from the Spanish vessels. This charge is based upon the handling of the vessel. Under the direction of Schley the *Brooklyn* described a circle, temporarily turning away from the foe to avoid blanketing the fire of other vessels and to get a commanding position from which to head off the escaping vessels. Cervera and other Spanish officers admit that the maneuvers of the *Brooklyn* frustrated their plans."

Captain Cook of the *Brooklyn* says in an interview published in the New York *Herald* that he gave the order for the "loop," and he tells the reason for it by saying:

"The *Brooklyn* made a beautiful turn, and we were able to fire directly into the bows of the leading ship of the enemy. Our helm was put aport to head off the Spanish fleet, and the *Brooklyn* turned rapidly and beautifully.

"I remember distinctly giving the order to the quartermaster. 'You see clearly the head of the leading ship,' I said to him. 'The idea is to get directly ahead of her.'

"I thought we might sacrifice our ship, but I believed we would hold the fleet for our battle-ships."

Other charges against Admiral Schley are that he might have destroyed the *Colon*, which lay at anchor at the mouth of the harbor with her engines uncoupled from May 27 to 31, inclusive, but that he did not do so; and that he used a letter written to him by Lieutenant Hodgson of the *Brooklyn* improperly. The lieutenant was reported in an interview as saying that during the famous "loop," when Commodore Schley's attention was called to the fact that the *Brooklyn* was in danger of ramming the *Texas*, he said: "D—— the *Texas*! Let the *Texas* look out for herself." Soon after this appeared, the admiral made public a letter from the lieutenant denying the correctness of the interview. The charge is that when the admiral made public that letter, he had in his possession another letter from the lieutenant explaining that it was the literal, not the substantial, correctness of the interview that he denied.

The present renewal of the storm of controversy began with the publication, in *The Army and Navy Journal*, of extracts from the third volume of "The History of the United States Navy," by Edgar Stanton Maclay, an employee in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, who is on the rolls as a laborer, and who performs the duties of a clerk. The first two volumes of this history are used as a text-book in the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and *The Army and Navy Journal*, upon the supposition that the third volume (covering our war with Spain) might also be adopted, published some extracts from it in which Mr. Maclay more than hints that Admiral Schley is a liar, a coward, and a "caitiff." Here are several passages:

"In his report about the coal supply of the vessels under his command, Schley exhibited either a timidity amounting to absolute cowardice or a prevarication of facts that was intrinsically falsehood." (Vol. III., p. 296.)

"Schley on May 28, 1898, . . . turned in caitiff flight from the danger spot toward which duty, honor, and the whole American people were most earnestly urging him. Viewed in whatever light it may be, the foregoing despatch can not be characterized otherwise than as being without exception the most humiliating, cowardly, and lamentable report ever penned by an American naval officer." (Vol. III., p. 298.)

"'Let the *Texas* take care of herself,' was the heartless reply,

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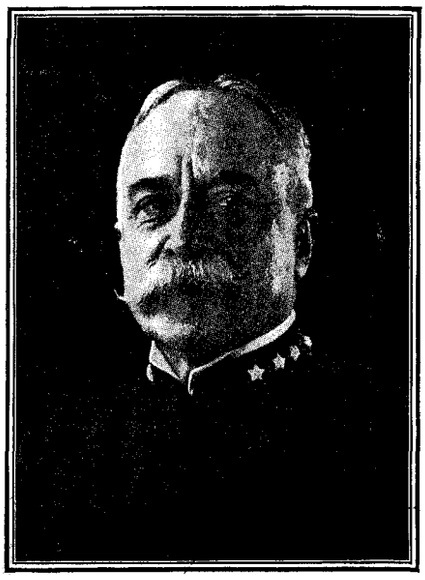
CAPTAIN LEMLEY.



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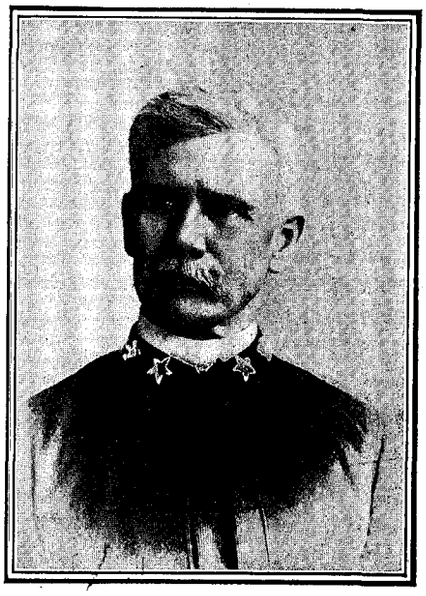


ADMIRAL BENHAM.

MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

and the shameful spectacle of an American war-ship, supported by a force superior to the enemy's—a war-ship whose commander had expended such vast quantities of ammunition in target practise in the presence of a fashionable hotel at Hampton Roads in order to meet a worthy foe—deliberately turning tail and running away was presented." (Vol. III., p. 364.)

"Schley was perfectly willing to avoid blanketing the fire of the American war-ships, even at the risk of a disastrous collision with the *Texas*, so long as he could escape getting too close to danger. . . . Schley's contribution to naval strategy, as too plainly shown by his conduct throughout this campaign, was, 'Avoid your enemy as long as possible and, if he makes for you, run.'" (Vol. III., p. 365.)

EDWARD STANTON MACLAY.

A newspaper interview reports Mr. Maclay as saying, when his attention was called to these extracts: "If Admiral Schley had been in any other navy in the world, he would have been court-martialed and shot. That is my opinion, and the opinion of a majority of the officers in the navy." The New York *Sun*, too, which refers to Mr. Maclay in its issue for July 20 as "the most distinguished living American historian," says of Admiral Schley that his official record "reeks with deceit," and "compels the presumption that he was a coward, and the conviction that he was not honest, at almost every recorded step." Mr. Maclay's criticisms, declares *The Sun*, "are more than justified." Admiral Sampson says, in an interview: "In one way, possibly, I was responsible for the statements made in the history. I was commander-in-chief of the squadron and was responsible, so far as reading the proofs goes."

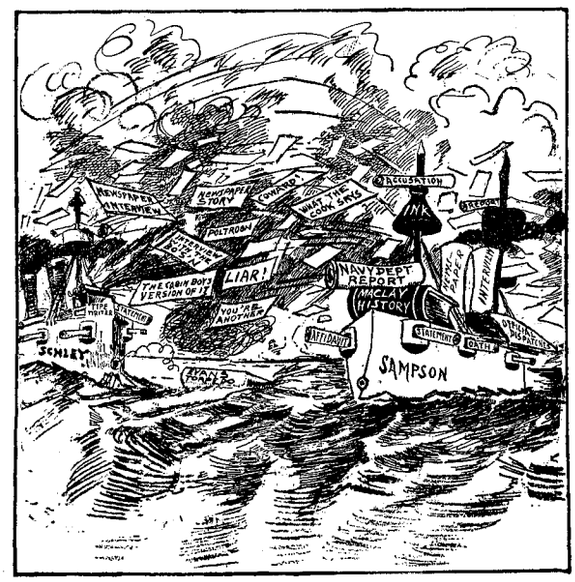
The Army and Navy Journal says:

"Whatever may be the status of Mr. Maclay as a naval authority, it is evident that he is not sufficiently informed as to naval sentiment to know that in what he has written about the battle of Santiago he has given a direct insult to the navy as a whole. To complete his work he must at the same time seek occasion to insult the army, in charging that one of its ranking officers deliberately sacrificed his army in an effort at 'self-aggrandizement.' In all of our experience we have never known so flagrant a case of historical incapacity as that exhibited by Mr. Maclay."

The chief newspaper supporter of Admiral Schley is the Baltimore *American*, altho it may be added that the great majority of the press have taken his part. *The American* says:

"Already there has been too much of the Dreyfus atmosphere about this matter. The American people will never tolerate the prosecution of it to the stage reached by the great French cause before justice was finally done the maligned and persecuted officer.

"Whatever may be the result of the court of inquiry, it will in no way interfere with the congressional investigation which Congressman Schirm, backed by the Maryland delegation, will propose. Court or no court, Congress must sift this matter to the bottom. The things that will not come before any court of inquiry or court-martial are those things which will prove the existence of a conspiracy among the junior officers of the navy, temporar-



THE IMPENDING NAVAL BATTLE.
—*The Boston Herald.*

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ily clothed with power through their appointment as chiefs of department bureaus, to shelve the older officers and reap for themselves and their immediate friends the honors and rewards of the Spanish war. A more diabolical scheme was never launched than was this, which has resulted in this long-standing scandal, where there should have been only glory. Congress can go to the heart of that conspiracy and lay the whole thing bare, as nobody else can do, and when its findings have been determined upon it will be in a position to take such action as will forever prevent a repetition of the methods that have been employed against Schley.

"There is but one word more to be said in this connection. By acknowledging that he read the proofs of Maclay's slanderous volume and approved them, the responsibility for the charges made against Schley is assumed by Sampson. Should the court of inquiry vindicate Schley and relieve him of this opprobrium, the people of the United States will demand that the Navy Department order Sampson before a court-martial for having slandered a brother officer who is his superior in the service."

Says the New York *Times:*

"If Admiral Sampson had had the misfortune to be hated and pursued by enemies as malevolent as the enemies of Schley they could easily have made out of the sinking of the *Merrimac* in

UNCLE SAM: "The Sampson-Schley Debating Society must be holding another meeting." —*The Detroit Journal.*

the channel of Santiago harbor a case immeasurably stronger against him than the manipulators of the 'loop' incident have ever been able to make against Schley. Was not Sampson sent out to destroy Cervera's fleet? In order to destroy him was it not necessary to get at him? But the sinking of the *Merrimac* was intended to close the harbor, so that Cervera could not get out nor Sampson get in. There would then have been no battle, no danger. How easily a knavish mind could on such a basis formulate charges of cowardice against Admiral Sampson, a brave, capable, and skilful commander! The truth is that the *Merrimac* business was nothing worse than a bad blunder. Had Hobson succeeded in sinking the vessel athwart the channel, as was planned, he would have brought on the worst disaster of the war. For it was the destruction of the Spanish fleet that enabled Shafter's troops to compel the surrender of the town. Our military preparations, made under Alger, of shameful memory, were so defective and we came so perilously near to failure in that undertaking that it is most unpleasant to dwell upon the possibilities that might have confronted us if Cervera had not succeeded in passing by the sunken *Merrimac* to his doom."

SOUTH HAMPTON, Conn., has a horse that has proved to be a good savings-bank. His owner lost $250 recently. The horse had a tickling in his throat yesterday and coughed up the bills intact. The owner thinks of offering the animal to officials of the Seventh National Bank of New York. —*The Chicago Evening Post.*

CHICAGO IN FINANCIAL STRAITS.

THE Chicago city government is said to be so nearly stranded, financially, that the necessary economies will seriously cripple the police and fire departments and other important branches of the city administration. To quote from a statement given out by Mayor Harrison: "Policemen will have to be discharged; fire companies will have to be reduced; teachers' salaries will have to be cut; some of the library sub-stations will have to be abandoned; when bridges and viaducts go to pieces they will have to be closed, as we will have no money to repair them; our streets will be dirtier than they have ever been, our alleys will be uncleaned; we shall not be able to dispose of garbage; health inspectors will have to be laid off." Corporations have had to submit to large increases in taxation to help remedy this state of affairs. The following five have been hit the hardest, the figures showing the assessed valuation of the properties last year and this:

	1900	1901
Fairbank Canning Company	$750,000	$2,000,000
Swift & Co.	2,500,000	3,500,000
Armour & Co.	3,000,000	4,000,000
Chicago City Railway	5,000,000	7,000,000
Union Traction Company	2,672,500	4,970,500
Total	$13,922,500	$21,470,500

The Chicago *Inter Ocean* (Rep.) says that the desperate condition of the city treasury is "a result of over four years of incompetence, extravagance, and corruption," and the Washington *Star* (Ind.) says, similarly:

"For some years Chicago has been gaining an unenviable reputation as one of the worst-governed cities in the United States. Its bureaus have been denounced as feeding-troughs for faithful henchmen of the politicians. Its police department has been accused of complicity with the vicious classes. Its councils have been charged with utter indifference to the public rights in the grant of charters and the enactment of local ordinances. Highwaymanry has flourished in the principal thoroughfares and citizens have been not only mulcted in pocket by the direct process of law, but on the side through the enterprise of the robbers, unmolested by the police.

"The present financial situation is indirectly the result of this record of municipal rottenness. The substantial residents have lost all faith in the administration. They believe that the local government has been extravagantly managed at every point, and feel justified in seeking to evade the taxes which are freely assessed through the medium of no less than twenty-one separate agencies, the state, city, and ward boards of various jurisdictions. The demand for a new charter for the city, to enable the raising of larger municipal funds, comes primarily from the politicians, not from the citizens.

"Thus the anomaly is presented of Chicago, a city said by its own residents to contain more millionaires to the square mile than any other city on the continent, suffering poverty. Some day Chicago may awake to the fact that decent city government is not a matter of politics, but of business."

The Chicago *News* (Ind.) treats the matter in a satirical vein. It observes:

"It should not be overlooked that, badly off tho the city finances may be, the situation is not wholly desperate. There has been no apparent sign that the city will suffer deprivation in either the oil inspectorship or the smoke inspectorship or the fish inspectorship. The accomplished Mr. Burke continues as before in his arduous labors of inspecting oil and collecting the fees for that service. The talented Mr. Schubert, with a salary of $2,000, had up to this morning shown no signs of a purpose to cease his vigilant and able inspection of the smoke. The penetrating mind of Mr. P. J. Murray is still engrossed with the inspection of fishes, also at a salary of $2,000. More than all, Henry Lutzenkirchen, the secretary of the public works department, continues to draw his stipend of $2,500 for his intense labors in the city's behalf, devoting his well-earned leisure to the welfare of the County Democracy, in which he takes an enlightened and friendly interest.

"Thus, no matter what happens, Chicago should not lose

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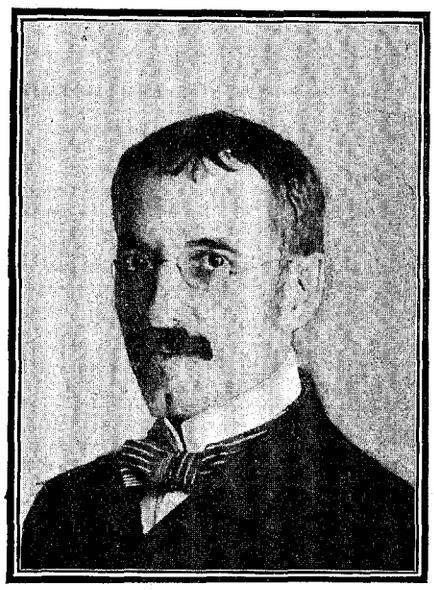
heart. Four of the inestimable privileges of the municipality seem likely to be preserved. Let the people as they contemplate the arrangements for economy in the city hall pause and consider gratefully their continued well-being as provided in these essential matters—oil, smoke, fish, and Lutzenkirchen. When word comes that the oil inspection fees are to be turned over to the city or that the fish and smoke inspectors are to have their wage cut down, or that Lutzenkirchen is to be made to do more work for the city—then and not till then will be the time to despair."

PORTO RICO'S NEW GOVERNOR AND FREE TRADE.

THE selection of William H. Hunt, now Secretary of Porto Rico, to succeed Mr. Allen as governor, does not meet with any opposition from the press. The New York *Times*, however, remarks that it "is an announcement that the existing system of government of that island is to be continued, not as a mere makeshift, but with some permanence. It is to be governed by the Executive Department at Washington. It is what in England would be called a 'Crown Colony.'" Mr. Hunt, who is not quite forty-four years of age, is the fourth son of the late William Henry Hunt, who was Secretray of the Navy under President Garfield and for a short time under President Arthur, who appointed him Minister to Russia. The new governor of Porto Rico was elected attorney-general of Montana at the age of twenty-seven, and at thirty-one was elected to the legislature, where he became chairman of the judiciary commission. He was a member of the state constitutional convention in 1884, and afterward held a position on the state bench. Governor Allen, says the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, "does not desire to return to Porto Rico. He feels that his work has been accomplished there. Civil administration and free trade have been established under his régime, and much has been done toward the rehabilitation of the island. He feels that the routine work of the future can be left to other hands." Jacob H. Hollander, treasurer of the island, says in an interview:



GOVERNOR HUNT,
New Governor of Porto Rico.

"The present financial condition of Porto Rico compares favorably, I think, with that of any State or Territory in the Union. The island is free from all funded or floating indebtedness, the burden of taxation upon its people is less than upon the residents of any other part of the United States, and the insular treasury begins a new fiscal year with sources of revenue that should supply all necessary expenditures, and with a surplus large enough to afford security against any unforeseen contingency."

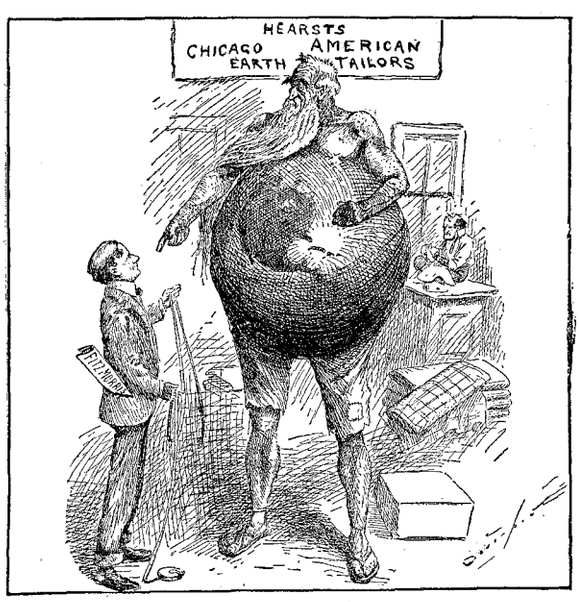
The President's proclamation of free trade with the island brings out varied comment. The New York *Evening Post* (Ind.) says that it "marks the measure of concession which an indignant public opinion wrung from a protection-ridden Congress," and it thinks the whole affair a "melancholy exhibition" and "a supreme illustration of President McKinley's method." The New York *Sun*, however, remarks that those who "have professed so much indignation over the proper and necessary delay in accomplishing free trade with Porto Rico have been actuated, not by any real solicitude for the interests of the island, but by a desire to see established a precedent embarrassing the Administration in its policy as to other possessions in another part of the globe."

AROUND THE WORLD IN SIXTY DAYS.

THE feat of circling the globe in sixty days and a half (60 days 13 hours 29 minutes 42 4-5 seconds), which has just been done by Charles Cecil Fitzmorris, of Chicago, one of the three schoolboys sent around the world by the three Hearst newspapers, calls out less comment from the other newspapers than it probably would if it had been done under the auspices of a scientific society, or some other body that could not be suspected of a desire for "advertising." Fitzmorris's record beats the previous record, made by George Francis Train in 1890, by seven days. Mr. Train made the trip in 67 days 13 hours 3 minutes and 3 seconds. The Russian Minister of Marine reckons that when the great Siberian railroad is completed, it will be possible to circle the globe in 33 days. The Providence *Journal* says in part:

"One reason for this race was the desire to discover whether the new Siberian route, in its present unfinished condition, affords a quicker way around the globe than the old route by way of Singapore and Suez. Fitzmorris, the Chicago boy, took the Siberian road eastward, traveling by steamer down the Shilka and Amur rivers after he left the eastern terminus of the railway. From Japan he crossed to British Columbia in the record-breaking time of eleven days. Meanwhile Eunson of New York, who started westward from that city to take the Siberian route to Vladivostok, has been stranded several times on the shallow Shilka River, and has been compelled literally to 'get out and walk.' He is still hurrying through Siberia, if the leisurely pace of the Russian expresses justifies that word. It is estimated that he will reach his starting-point in about seventy-three days.

"Crittenden of San Francisco, the other lad in the race, tried the Suez route, and would probably have won if a mishap to one of the steamers he sailed upon had not caused him to miss a connection. He is expected to swing around the great circle in sixty-four or sixty-five days, losing the race by a small margin, considering the fact that he will have traveled about three thousand miles farther than his rivals. This is due, of course, to his route's lying far south of theirs."



FATHER EARTH: "See here, young man, the last time I was measured I was 68 days around the waist, now you make it 60. Am I getting smaller?"
—*The New York Evening Journal.*

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HAWAIIAN PAPERS ON ANNEXATION TO CALIFORNIA.

THE Hawaiian press are in a furor over the proposition that the island be annexed to California as one or more counties of that State; and, to judge from their remarks, public opinion there is against it. The idea was suggested in Honolulu by President David Starr Jordan, of Leland Stanford University, and was suggested in San Francisco, about the same time, by Judge Abram S. Humphreys, of the First Circuit Court of Hawaii. *The Paradise of the Pacific* (Honolulu) remarks: "Doubtless President Jordan was innocent of the consequences when he threw out the suggestion at this crucial time that Hawaii be annexed to California as a county. It had been debated with much heat some years ago at the meetings of the American League and Annexation Club, and was almost forgotten. Now there comes a stranger from the mainland to reopen the argument and set some of our most reputable citizens by the ears." Judge Humphreys said, as quoted in the San Francisco *Chronicle*:

"The prospects of statehood for Hawaii are so remote that, in my judgment, the one thing to be done to bring order out of the chaos that exists there is to place them where they will be a part of a great State, with stable laws and fixed government. It will bring about a development in the islands that can never come under present conditions, and will add to the happiness of the people and security of property. . . . It would give California an additional Congressman, and, at the same time, give to Hawaii the strength of the entire California delegation in Congress. It would give to the islands a stable government with the supreme court of California and the civil code of the State, together with all the decisions and rulings of that court, reaching back for fifty years. . . . An annexation would tend to build up the commercial relations between San Francisco and the islands to a great degree. And it would be the solution of all the political puzzles that now disturb the peace of the Territory and retard its natural development."

The Honolulu *Volcano* also advocates annexation as a safeguard against hostile tariff legislation, which it believes possible under the recent Supreme Court decision.

The Gazette and *The Star*, however, two of the leading papers of the islands, bitterly oppose the scheme. *The Gazette* declares that it "can not imagine a worse plight for the Hawaiians," and *The Star* says:

"Annexation to the United States was one thing; that brought us upon a plane with the greatest of the States, for a large number of them had passed through the territorial stage before reaching statehood. The identity of Hawaii was preserved and by care and judgment it could itself rise to statehood. The annexation of Hawaii as a county of California is quite another thing. It is the complete loss of identity. Hawaii would be lost, its very name might disappear from the map, and the tradition of the past, which Hawaiians set so much store by, would be swept aside and forgotten. Hawaii would lose its judiciary system, with its laws peculiarly adapted to its primitive people. It would lose its legislative system, its senate, and its house of representatives, in fact it would lose everything that makes Hawaii an entity, an individuality. Hawaii would cease to be."

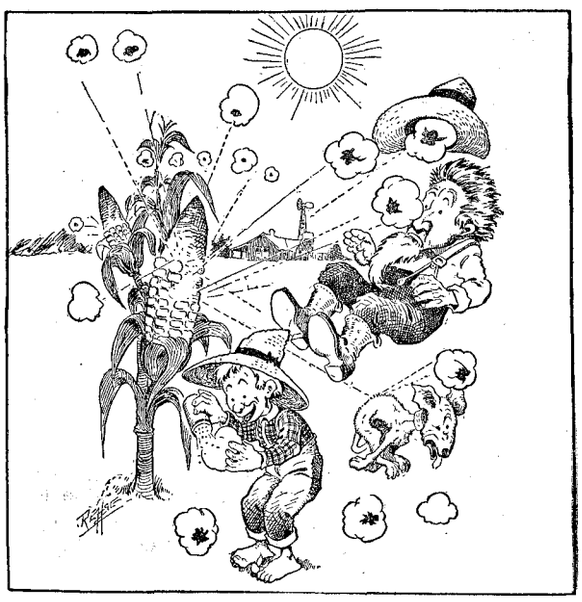
In the course of the discussion *The Gazette* tells of a curious political condition that obtains in the islands. The monarchy was overthrown and the archipelago offered to the United States, it will be remembered, by a comparatively small part of the population; and when the electoral law was framed, restrictions were placed about the ballot that would result, it was thought, in giving the annexation party control of the Government. But the natives have succeeded in meeting the franchise qualifications in such large numbers that, as *The Gazette* says, "it is a fact which every man knows to be true that, if a vote could be had to-day between American rule in Hawaii and the restoration of the native throne, the victory would be for the throne." It continues:

"Hawaii is an American territory with a voting majority of royalists; and there is no other territory like it in the Union. Americanism, therefore, is on the defensive here; and the duty of good citizens is not so much to assert it as to protect it. And, strangely enough, it needs protection not only from men who were born under another flag but from men who were born under its own; men like those who almost ruined the South in the carpet-bag era and who are quite ready, for the lining of their own pockets, to lead the islands back to heathenism.

"Happily the work of defense falls upon men who, having prepared the country for Americanism or having come here to help in that preparation or to enjoy its results, are powerful enough when they act in harmony, to save the American idea from its enemies. We have no fear of the final results. Revolutions do not go backward; progress, which is of the age and the national force and is bound up with patriotism, can not be checked. All the case requires is courage and zeal for the public welfare, and these the real Americans of this group have always shown whenever a crisis has arisen."

AN ANXIOUS SPECTATOR.

—*Chicago Inter Ocean.*



POOR OLD KANSAS! IT'S SO HOT THERE THAT THE CORN IS POPPING ON THE STALKS!

—*St. Paul Pioneer Press.*

THE HOT SPELL IN CARTOON.

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CUBAN PRESS ON UNITED STATES "ASSIMILATION."

THE question of annexation to the United States will not down in Cuba. In the United States the newspapers seem to care very little about the matter; but in Cuba it is a vital topic. The old soldiers of the war for independence and the politicians are pretty solidly against it, but the men of property feel that trade would be stimulated and their possessions made more secure by union with the United States. *El Diario* (Havana) is printing a series of letters on the subject from its readers, in which the feeling seems to be pretty evenly divided; but as the annexationists form only a small fraction of the Cuban population, there is thought to be no prospect that public opinion in the island will favor the proposition, at least until the people have had a try at independent self-government. In the mean time, however, it is dawning upon the Cubans that the immense influence that the Government and people of this country are going to have in the island will be likely to work a radical change in their language and customs—in short, that they will be "assimilated." Annexation might depend on a treaty or some other form of agreement, but assimilation will come whether they want it or not. Señor Antonio Duque, in a letter in *La Lucha* (Havana) which has made something of a stir there, says, in part:

"There is no way of preventing American preponderance in Cuba, nor is there any way of preventing the Saxon race gradually ousting the Latin, not only in Cuba, but in Central America. From the day Spain ceded Florida to the United States it was only a matter of time for Cuba also to become American, and it is hopeless to try and stop it. . . . . .

"Before the unavoidable annexation arrives, we ought to try to learn something from the Americans and thus get ready to

A LITTLE SKEERY NOW, BUT HE'LL MAKE IT IN TIME.
—*The Minneapolis Tribune.*

live under the new conditions. The Americans being the hardier and more energetic race, having nothing to fear, whatever the conditions may be, it is for us who are weak and ignorant to pull ourselves together and try to fit ourselves for the struggle.

"To do this it will be no use shutting ourselves up and keeping apart from the Americans, for we should not be able to support ourselves in this way. By persisting in talking about the race, and by trying to preserve it, we shall not be able to prevent our absorption, we shall simply unfit ourselves for anything useful under the fast changing conditions, and we shall go to the wall."

La Lucha indorses this view, and adds:

"American influence will shortly dominate in Cuba with or without annexation, and the wisest course for the Cubans to take is to go with the stream, join the winning side, and, by learning all they can, prepare for the new conditions.

"At this hour, when the die has been cast, it is useless to look back. Whoever is to blame, if blame there be, or for whatever cause, things in Cuba are destined to run according to radically changed methods, and all those who can adapt themselves to the new order of things will get ample compensation for the change in customs, language, and preponderating influences. By kicking, the Cubans will only injure themselves, and will help neither their race nor their language."

La Realidad (Havana) says, in part:

"It is a sociological truism that a lower civilization always yields to a higher one, even in cases where numbers are in favor of the former. In our own, we have not even this latter advantage; and no one who is not entirely out of his wits will pretend to establish any comparison between our civilization and the civilization of the Americans, so rich in those elements which most contribute to increase the collective power of a people.

"Our intellectual culture has been one-sided and unpractical. We delight in speculative and theoretical, and they love positive and practical knowledge. The useful is their aim; ours, the beautiful—if not the showy. We talk, they act; they live close to nature, we try to keep away from it; above all, they have a clear notion of time and its value, and we seem to have but a vague conception of it.

"Under these conditions, in the struggle for life, we must yield and perish.

"Adaptation is our only protection."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* learns from some unnamed source that our forces, in addition to occupying the naval stations provided for in the Platt amendment, will also occupy "the principal sea defenses of the island that were left there by Spain" and that "the forts at Havana, Cienfuegos, Santiago, and Matanzas will fly the American flag and be mounted with American guns, even after the Cuban republic is an accomplished fact and its independent sovereignty is recognized by the nations of the world." He goes on to say:

"It is true that this is not distinctly nominated in the Platt amendment, which now is a part of the organic law of Cuba, but the obligation of this country to man and manage the harbor fortifications of the island is made incumbent, according to the view of the leaders of Cuban legislation as well as the War Department officials, by the general guaranty of protection vouchsafed by the Platt law. Very little has been said on this phase of the question heretofore, because it was feared that it would give additional excuse for discussion and consequent delay at Havana of compliance on the part of the Constitutional Convention with the Platt law, which was made a condition precedent to the withdrawal of American sovereignty and the complete surrender of the island to the control of the Cubans."

La Discusion (Havana) protests against this action, saying that it is "an imposition of a strong power upon a weak one, yet Cuba can do nothing but accept." *La Lucha*, however, says: "Cuba could not do anything with the two historic fortresses of Havana and Santiago, while the flag of the formidable republic of the United States would command the respect of strangers, and other nations would see behind the flag not the liliputian state of Cuba, but one of the greatest Powers of the globe. The two points of most strategic importance on the Cuban coast the United States should take and strongly fortify."

Is the Steel Strike Settled?—In the opening days of this week, press reports to the effect that President Shaffer, of the Amalgamated Association, had had a conference in New York City with J. Pierpont Morgan, gave lively hope of an early settlement of the great strike that has involved over 200,000 men, cost a sum estimated at about six million dollars, and yet has been conducted practically without bloodshed or violence. It became clear in the discussion of the steel strike causes, that the

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main object of the strife was to compel permission to unionize all the steel hoop, sheet steel, and tin plate mills of the steel trust The trust has opposed this stubbornly, and the reason for stubbornness on both sides was evident. If all the mills were inside the union, it is remarked, the union would have a tremendous advantage in all future labor disputes; with part of the mills inside and part outside, as now, the trust has the advantage. This labor battle, then, has been a fight for position, and while there is no dispute about hours or wages, the winner of this contest will be in a situation to win such disputes in the future. The balance of sympathy in the daily press has been somewhat against the strikers, first, because of a fear that labor control in the steel mills might limit production and bar out improved machinery (as has been the case in England), and so endanger our manufacturing supremacy; second, because of a belief that if the men in the non-union mills want to stay out of the union, they should not be coerced into joining it.

The Amalgamated Association has succeeded in closing nearly all the mills in the three lines of steel manufacture involved. Some one has suggested that as soon as the union succeeds in closing all the mills in one branch of the steel industry, that in itself would be a reason for opening all of them again at once, since the only object of the strike is to get all of the workingmen into line. All the tinplate mills of the trust except the Monessan works were idle at the time of our going to press, and of the steel-hoop mills the Portage works at Duncansville was the only plant running full, altho several other mills were in partial operation. Of the sheet-steel mills, however, the plants at Vandergrift, Apollo, Leechburg, Scottdale, Old Meadow, and Saltsburg were in full operation, and the plant at Wellsville was in partial operation.

POSTAL REFORM AND ONE-CENT POSTAGE.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL SMITH'S orders excluding from the second-class postal privileges books and papers that are not *bona-fide* news or literary periodicals seems to meet general approval on the part of the daily papers. Congressman Loud has been trying for several years to get such a law through Congress, but without success, and now the Postmaster-General has accomplished the result by orders defining the kind of periodicals that are entitled to travel at the rate of a cent a pound. One effect, it is believed, will be the increase of from $10,000,000 to $20,000,000 a year in the postal revenues, enough to turn the annual deficit into a handsome profit, and, perhaps, to make one-cent letter postage possible. Postmaster-General Smith's paper, the Philadelphia *Press*, says that the orders "are not intended to affect any legitimate publications which have the right to be carried in the mails as second-class matter. They will interfere only with the so-called 'fake' publications and 'sample copy' abuses which have thrived at the expense of the Government." It continues:

"There are two legitimate advances in the postal business of the country that the people are anxious to see carried into effect. One is a reduction of letter postage to one cent and the other is the extension of the free delivery system to the rural districts. The latter improvement has been introduced and pushed as far as the resources of the Post Office Department will permit, but the former has been looked upon as impracticable so long as the recent classification of mail matter continued. While the Government was carrying hundreds of millions of pounds of second-class matter at a cost of 4 or 5 cents a pound and was getting only 1 cent a pound for it, it was impossible to think of introducing reforms in the reduction of postage and in the general extension of free rural delivery.

"But both these reforms became possible with the second-class mail matter abuses cut off, not immediately, of course, but as rapidly as the revenues of the department will permit. One reform, however, will probably take place at once, and that is the disappearance of a deficiency in the postal business of the country. The department will become self-sustaining, as it should be when conducted on business principles. The country has been patient under the abuses which have annually saddled on the people a deficiency in the postal revenue. These abuses grew up under a misinterpretation of the law, and now that the law is to be interpreted according to its intent and the abuses stopped there will be no complaint except from those who have profited by the leniency of the Government."

The Detroit *Tribune* suggests that the postal finances would be in still better condition if the department could cut down the exorbitant sums paid to the railroads for carrying the mails. The rates paid to the roads, it says, "are now far in excess, not only of reason, but of what the roads would dare demand of any other person or company of persons than the Government," and it remarks that "the receipts of the roads for hauling cars and carrying mail matter have long been what is commonly denominated as a 'graft,' and the railroads have taken and are taking good care and calling into play all means of preventing any reduction in their revenue from this source. Only wide agitation of the subject and the dissemination of knowledge of its injustice and extravagance will be of any avail in securing action on the part of Congress."

The Kansas City *Star* thinks that one-cent letter postage is not so desirable as better service. It says:

"There has not been a popular demand for cheaper letter postage. Even those who have been most influential in the initiation of movements to secure a reduction in rates have shown strange unfamiliarity with facts and statistics and but a poor understanding of the postal principle.

"The people of the United States are quick to protest against exorbitant taxation of any kind, but they never object to paying a reasonable price for a good thing. In the matter of public service they are constantly demanding betterments, not reductions in rates. They do seek, continuously and earnestly, a finer mail service. They welcome and appreciate the vast improvements that have been made in the distributing facilities of the country in recent years. They seek still greater advancement. But they do not object to paying a two-cent letter rate when a reduction to one cent might mean a poorer service or a check upon the progress recently witnessed. The same public view may be seen in the matter of street-railway facilities in the larger cities. There is rarely anything like a popular cry for a fare under five cents, but there is always a demand for more, better, and cleaner cars and for the extension of systems.

"The postal service is one of the most equitable in the entire Government. Those who can least afford to pay a two-cent letter rate have, as a rule, least use for the mails. The big business establishments, whose postage bills run into large amounts, do not find the rate burdensome. What they do find objectionable and of much more concern to them is deficiencies and delays in the distribution of the mails. Therefore, if the new orders result in a surplus, let that surplus be appropriated to improvements rather than to a reduction in letter postage."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

MR. BRYAN will not stump Ohio this year.—*The Cleveland Leader.*

THIS heat out West goes against the grain.—*The New York World.*

MR. BRYAN continues to upset his tombstone. Mr. Bryan is very unruly, for a corpse.—*The Baltimore American.*

HAWAIIANS are discussing annexation to California. Why don't they go around the other way and become a suburb of Greater New York?—*The Salt Lake Herald.*

KING EDWARD has decided to abolish the ancient ceremony at the coronation of the peers kissing the King. Peers and King are to be congratulated.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

A STRIP five miles wide has been cut from Missouri and shifted over to Kansas. For a case of men having prohibition thrust upon them this probably takes the lead.—*The Chicago News.*

THE weather man says the hot spell is broken. If he will kindly state just where the break is located, there are several people who would be willing to go out and look for it.—*The Salt Lake Herald.*

VAN BIBBER: "When Kruger comes to this country and goes to see McKinley, do you think the old man will have a pleasant call?" Van Kuber: "He will if he doesn't know what jollying is."—*The Chicago Public.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

MR. HOWELLS ON JOHN FISKE.

ONE of the oldest of John Fiske's friends was Mr. W. D. Howells, who writes in a recent article of their lifelong acquaintanceship. Concerning their early days in Cambridge, when each was starting out in his literary career, Mr. Howells says (in *Harper's Weekly*, July 20):

"When I first knew him we were young men living close neighbors in that pretty Old Cambridge which has since grown so much newer, without growing prettier. I heard of him vaguely as a reviewer, learned out of all proportion to the wont of newspaper critics, who wrote book notices for the New York *World*, then priding itself upon its literature, and when I met the tall, slim, spectacled, ruddy-haired, fresh-colored young man, walking the succory-bordered paths of our dusty outskirt of a suburb, it was with the instant liking which his aspect inspired in every beholder. One of the kindest hearts in the world looked out of those round, spectacled eyes, and assured you of human recognition when the absent mind was off upon quite other business, and a soul of such absolute simplicity dwelt in them, a spirit of such true modesty that if you were yourself a person of the ordinary perfidy and conceit you were put to shame by them. He was even then a man of wide and great learning, but he was interested in people for themselves, apart from anything they knew, and as he never seemed aware how ignorant I was, we got on admirably in the common interest of our growing families and the constant question of the butcher's bills. We had each other back and forth to dinner, and tho the dinner was never one to 'distend a man,' as he phrased it, so much young lightness of heart accompanied the repast that we never knew we had not fared sumptuously.

"The cost of living then (I do not know how it may be now) so nicely adjusted itself to one's income in Cambridge, that we nearly all had to count the cost; but nobody dreamt it was not worth it. To be living in Cambridge was a high privilege, which he never slighted, for he spent his whole busy life there, except for such absences as lecturing enforced, and one brief sojourn in Europe. Tho of Connecticut origin, he was essentially a Harvard man, and a Cambridge American of the truest type. His social and intellectual environment was as congenial as a man of his temperament could have, and he felt to the utmost the inexpressible comfort of it. He felt it, even in those years of defeat when he was trying so hard for the Harvard librarianship, which the severe scruple of the Overseers denied him because of his agnosticism. This had kept him out of a professorship, amusingly enough with reference to the scientific thinker who has since done more than any other to relieve the suspense of faith, and to repair the ravage of research in the region of accepted beliefs. But John Fiske was first an apostle to the scientific heathen, and preached Darwin and Spencer and Huxley to the multitude, before he began to bear the torch they were supposed to have extinguished, relumed, and fed with fresh fire, back to the stronghold of question. So far as what may be generically called Evolution was concerned, his work was strictly an apostolate, without incentive or invention of his own; but he preached his doctrine so delightfully, with such charm of temper and manner, that one could not choose but hear him. It was when he had dissatisfied himself with the psychological outcome that he began to speak as one having authority, and to say those things, new and glad, of God and of the Soul which are possibly more important than anything said of either in our darkened day. They have indeed been so heartening to so many anxious spirits, overjoyed to find themselves alive, that it would not be strange if we had exaggerated his mission somewhat, and too confidently hailed the philosopher as a prophet."

A little later Fiske began to write for *The Atlantic Monthly*, of which Howells was then editor. As a contributor, Fiske's bearing was marked by "entire and perfect modesty, which was never diffidence of mind." "He was quite confident of his ground," Mr. Howells says, "but as to the measure and nature of his ground he was sweetly amenable to the editorial exigencies." His copy came "promptly, in handwriting of the clearness and far more than the gracefulness of print, and his proof was returned with scarce a correction." Mr. Howells looks upon Fiske's contributions to American history as his highest work, and places him next to Parkman, as the second American historian in rank. Of his "relentless accuracy of memory" and of other personal and mental traits, Mr. Howells writes:

"It was fabled of him that he knew the weather of any given date of any given year since he began to note it, and could declare it off-hand. In an era of convulsive domestic vicissitudes he remembered the name of every cook in the family, and not only her first name, but her last name, which the cook probably did not remember herself. Whatever he fancied in his reading he learned easily by heart; and once he overwhelmed me by repeating several pages from a novel of mine, which he had liked.

"His personality had a sort of manifold simplicity, or was built in *laminæ* of unconsciousness, which you could penetrate to the last without finding any taint of distrust or suspicion. He was so made up of kindness that there could be no question of his loving or not loving his fellow men: here he was! The naturalist who declared that Fiske could describe a grasshopper with unrivaled precision, but would not know one when he saw it, suggested the limitations of his scientific function with no limitation to his own affection and esteem; and a story is told of the philosopher which points his faith in the good-will around him if it is true, and paints the child-like man himself, if it is not true. At a meeting of a club of which he was a chief member, and at which he was that night the subject of discussion, himself and his philosophy, he listened attentively for ten or fifteen minutes, and then went to sleep, and slept peacefully through the debate.

"In a place inhabited by such alert and analytic intelligences as Cambridge so interesting a man must have formed the subject of a great deal of inquiry. What his final formulation may have been, or whether there was ever any consensus of opinion, I do not know; but I remember being struck by the saying of a famous Cambridge psychologist that Fiske used the block system in his mind. The block system was then employed (and may be now, for all I know) on certain lines of railroad; and in pursuance of it a certain distance or block of the road was entirely devoted to a certain train, and all other travel and traffic were excluded from it. By a like system Fiske devoted his whole intellectual being, at one time and another, to this train of thought or that: now to the evolutionary apostolate, now to the rehabilitation of faith in God and the soul, now to the study of our national history. But the block, whatever it might be, never excluded the man's essential loveliness of nature, his simple unity with his fellow men, and his undoubting faith in their affection for him. It is therefore that he has left behind him not only an endearing name, but a memory that is not bitterness to any man that survives him."

THE NEW "EPIC NOVEL."

A NEW type in fiction is discovered by a writer in one of the current magazines; namely, a kind of novel in which the hero and heroine are strictly subordinated, not to the mere incident and plot of ordinary life, but to "the clash of elemental forces, the vast trend of events," so that the novel thus partakes of a certain epic quality, and becomes the prose-poem of a great national episode. "The elucidation of character as a fiction-motive," says the writer (Cornelia Atwood Pratt, in *The Critic*, July) is giving way before the transcription of an epoch or a state of society. In short, the 'stream of tendency' is crowding the individuals on the stage, and assuming the honors belonging to leading rôle." Miss Pratt instances two recent books which in a marked degree illustrate this new *genre* in fiction—Mr. Frank Norris's "The Octopus," and Mr. Winston Churchill's "The Crisis." The former, says Miss Pratt, is well worth studying if one desires to forecast the future development of fiction. It is the first of a trilogy that shall constitute "the epic of wheat." "It plays up bravely," says Miss Pratt, "to this new demand

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for a novel vast enough in scope and purpose to belong to the law of billion-dollar corporations." As for "The Crisis," she remarks:

"When Stephen meets Lincoln for the first time, hears the famous Freeport debate between Lincoln and Douglas, and is inspired and recreated, it is, again, not by Stephen's worship, but by Lincoln's epoch-making power over the souls and consciences of men, that we are affected. The other characters, Colonel Carvel, that incarnation of all the Southern virtues; Judge Whipple, the bluff old fighter; the gentle philanthropist, Brinsmade, Clarence Colfax, the fire-eater, all give us the same impression—that their importance is only illustrative. In other words, Mr. Churchill's new and able novel illustrates not only its author's power to deal with a large subject, but forecasts a kind of fiction just beginning to shape itself. This kind of fiction, while it deals with character carefully, does not do so for character's own sake,—and so it must forever fail to satisfy the desire of those readers to whom nothing else seems thoroughly worth while. To say this, however, is not to say that the new epic novel will not have tremendous merits of its own, which we shall learn to appraise more justly when we have exchanged our old-fashioned scales for others larger and better adapted to weighing the somewhat overwhelming qualities of the new *genre*.

"As fiction is our only elastic form of literary expression, doubtless it is on the cards that fiction must have new and startling developments to keep pace with the confusing developments of our civilization. 'The Crisis' seems to forecast more efficiently than any other historical novel of the day the line along which the historical novel ought to develop to be in touch with the new movement. It not only outlines intelligibly our second great national trial with its complexity of causes, interests, influences, personalities, but it forecasts an approaching third in the words of the dying Judge Whipple, who foresees that 'wealth not yet dreamed of will flow out of this land and the waters of it will rot all save the pure, and corrupt all save the incorruptible. Half-hearted men will go down before that flood.' The book shows a grasp of fundamental causes and the drift of things; it leaves a total impression of magnitude, accuracy, conscience, enthusiasm."

A TRAGEDY OF HUMAN AFFECTION: "THE CAREER OF THE TORCH."

A DRAMA by the French academician and author, Paul Hervieu, recently produced, has excited a great deal of literary attention and interest. It is entitled "La Course du Flambeau," and its theme is the career or transmission of the torch of human love, the inevitably tragic course of human life. The characters of the play are simple, commonplace people, placed in exceedingly commonplace surroundings. Three generations, and the relations between them, are put before the spectator, and the plot logically leads to the playwright's conclusion, which is summed up in the final words of one of the chief personages: "I have killed my mother, who loved me, for the sake of my daughter, who does not love me." The course of love is downward, not upward, and thousands of families, in all walks of life, are supposed by this play to illustrate the cruel, fateful suffering of parents who find their self-sacrificing affection not only unrequited, but disdained and treated with humiliating indifference.

The story of the drama is as follows:

Madame Revel is the widow of a man who had frittered away most of his fortune. She is loved by an American business-man, and returns his affection. She is urged to marry him, but she refuses on account of her young daughter, Marie-Jeanne, to whose welfare she devotes herself with absolute singleness of purpose. The girl must be provided for first, and the mother's marriage would injure the prospect of a desirable match for the daughter. The American, Stangy, declines to wait any longer and departs, leaving Mme. Revel unhappy, but stoically determined to do her maternal duty at any cost.

Marie-Jeanne falls in love and marries against the consent and protests of her mother. The young gentleman is unsuccessful in his ventures and dissipates the dowry and all his capital. Bankruptcy confronts him, but he can be saved by Mme. Revel's mother, who has considerable money, but is determined to keep it intact for her daughter and granddaughter, to insure them against misery. She is pleaded with, entreated to come to the aid of the granddaughter's husband, but in vain. She adheres to her resolution.

Marie-Jeanne adores her husband, and his troubles affect her deeply. Consumption, too, develops in her at this time. To save her the mother is ready for any sacrifice, any desperate act. She writes to her former American suitor, imploring his aid. No response comes, however, and the old grandmother persisting in her refusal, both Marie-Jeanne and her mother regard her as a wretched, senile egotist. What right has she to her money—she who should have died before this and freed the hands of the younger generation, with whose ways and purposes she can have no sympathy?

Mme. Revel knows where the old lady keeps her securities. She manages to steal them, but, as it turns out, to no useful end. Nothing remains now except to resort to the supreme, the capital crime. Marie-Jeanne must leave Paris and go into the Alps. Her mother is determined to go with her, and the grandmother, not wishing to separate herself from Mme. Revel, insists on accompanying them. The family physician tells them that the old lady must stay in Paris, that she is suffering from a certain disease which would make the mountain air and cold absolutely and speedily fatal to her. But as she alone has the means to defray the expenses of the trip and makes her going a condition of doing so, the truth is cruelly withheld from her.

All three depart for Magola. There Mme. Revel meets her former suitor, who offers to save Marie-Jeanne. The mother dreams of the happiness she has longed for, but, alas! the American has married another in the mean time. Marie-Jeanne abandons her mother, and goes with her husband to America. Mme. Revel, almost broken-hearted over this ingratitude and indifference, throws herself into the arms of her mother, crying, "I have no one but you now!" But—she is too late. The homicidal Alps have killed the grandmother. At that very instant she expires of her secret heart trouble—a sacrifice, and a vain one. Her devotion had been spurned, just as Mme. Revel's worship of her own child was by the latter.

The most elaborate review of the play is that of the well-known critic René Doumic in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. He praises the technique, the rapidity of the action, the severe simplicity of the dialog, and the general conception of this tragedy of *bourgeois* life, tho its realism is too hard and unrelieved by human sentiment. He makes, however, two general criticisms. Logically, he says, the play is open to exception. Mme. Revel is intended to represent an *average* person, not a maniac of maternity, and only maniacs are capable of such violent and extreme deeds. Average people love their children, and will do much for them, but they will stop this side of crime. Yet Mme. Revel is led to theft, forgery, and assassination! We do not, on examining ourselves, admit that this is possible in ordinary families and in every-day life. But there is, continues M. Doumic, a graver objection. He writes:

"That affections descend, and do not ascend, we have admitted. It is a real maxim, no doubt, but of so general a kind that when we study it closely it appears to lose practical sense and import. Let us glance at life and history. Take the patriarchal families, Greek, Roman: the father subordinates them to himself, and if necessary even sacrifices them, under the pretext that he is the head. The same thing is true of ancient French families. In Anglo-Saxondom the first care was to turn the children out, send them far away to live an individual life at their own risk and peril.

"It is, then, to modern French families that M. Hervien would apply his theory. But in them, more than anywhere else, parents and grandparents are seen to be surrounded by a delicate and thoughtful tenderness, in a sweet and cordial atmosphere. . . . In Hervien's play we see a perversion of maternal love, of true love of this species we scarcely catch a glimpse.

"The playwright speaks with bitterness of the law of nature

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which decrees that children shall go forward almost without turning to look back; and, to judge by his portrayal, the day parents are made to feel the sting of this natural law they conceive hatred for life itself. But the contrary is true. We accept this law, and by accepting it we deprive it of its cruelty. Parental love is not free from sacrifices, but in these very sacrifices we find joy. The children leave us; we bid them be honest and devote themselves to others as we have devoted ourselves to them, and this suffices us; we feel amply recompensed and do not think of complaining. They march toward the future. Alas! that future has so many deceptions for them. How can there be in the look with which we speed them anything but tenderness, pity, and encouragement."

M. Doumic concludes by recognizing the novelty and progressive character of the play. Less rigorous critics are more generous in their commendation and declare that Hervien has shown how rich the narrowest life is in material for real and poignant tragedy.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POE AS A COLLEGE BOY.

GRISWOLD, in his "Memoir of Poe," which has been so often assailed by the poet's friends as a malicious exaggeration of his faults and vices, says that at the University of Virginia Poe "led a very dissipated life" and "was known as the wildest and most reckless student of his class." Drinking and gaming in excess are the two sins with which he is specifically charged. In *The Bookman* (July) Charles W. Kent writes of "Poe's Student Days," and gives the results of an examination of the university records, as well as reminiscences that have been published from time to time by those who knew him as a student. While Mr. Kent does not wholly exonerate Poe of the charges of drinking and gaming, he does not find the record against him nearly as black as Griswold painted it. For one thing, Poe seems to have been altogether too busy a boy to have spent a great deal of time in dissipation. He was one of the foremost athletes, appears to have been an honor-winning student, a poet and story-writer, and ambitious as a debater. "Is it worth while now to prove," asks Mr. Kent, "that a boy of seventeen, so multifariously busy, could not have found time to be a habitual drunkard or an untiring gambler?"

Some of this indirect evidence in Poe's favor is very interesting, aside even from its bearing on the subject of his alleged dissipation. Thus Mr. Kent speaks of Poe as an athlete in a way to destroy, it is probable, some illusions which have been attached to the memory of this dreamer of weird dreams:

"It is true that Poe was just past seventeen [at the time he matriculated], but his athletic record was already well established. He was 'rather short of stature, thick, and somewhat compactly set, but very active, being quite an expert in athletic and gymnastic arts.' It may spoil a poetic illusion to add that 'he was bow-legged and walked rapidly, with a certain jerkiness in his hurried movements.' His greatest athletic achievement dates from June, 1825, when he swam, under a hot sun, from Ludlam's Wharf (Richmond) to Warwick, a distance of six miles, against a very strong tide. 'Any swimmer in the Falls in my days,' says Poe, 'would have swum the Hellespont and thought nothing of the matter.' This feat on the James, which is duly attested, was indeed remarkable for a boy, and in a measure justifies his boast that he could swim the English Channel from Dover to Calais. But Poe's prowess was not confined to swimming. He had the reputation of being the best young boxer in Richmond; and if in fights he ever had to exercise the valorous discretion of flight, he could readily have outstripped most contestants, for his swiftness in running was noted among his companions. His athletic record in field sports, however, would have been made in the running broad jump, for during his early life, probably here at the University, he jumped twenty-one feet six inches on a level, with a running start of twenty yards. His chief competitor in athletic contests here was one of the Labranche brothers, of New Orleans, who had been educated in France and trained in physical exercise. But the sad-faced Poe took his sports seriously, and exhibited little boyish enthusiasm or spirit in his triumphs."

One is reminded by this of the fact that young Keats, instead of being the sickly, shrinking, delicate lad of tradition, with a heart ready to break at harsh criticism, was in fact a sturdy young man extremely fond of physical combat with his schoolmates, and quite able to make a good showing therein.

Of Poe as a student, the following may be noted from one of the reports submitted by the professors on the examinations held in December, 1825:

"'Mr. Long made a report of the examination of the classes belonging to the school of ancient languages and the names of the students who excelled at the examination of these classes.' For the first time in the faculty minutes for 1826 the name of Edgar Allan Poe appears, as fourth in a list of nineteen who excelled in Senior Latin. These distinguished students are divided into groups, and Poe is third in the second group, Gessner Harrison standing alone in the first group. At the same meeting 'the names of the students who excelled in the Senior French class' were reported by Professor Blaetterman. The eight names are arranged alphabetically, so Poe's stands sixth on the list."

Aside from Poe's excellency as an athlete and a linguist, there is further important negative evidence in his favor as follows:

"In the faculty minutes, filled in that year [1825] with trials of students, we read of visits to Mosby's and Daffan's confectioneries, where all manner of drinks, such as mint-sling, mixed and unmixed wine, toddy, Madeira, eggnog, peach and honey, and ardent and vinous liquors, might be had; and we learn further of dormitory entertainments where such beverages were known. But in all these records we nowhere find any mention of the name of Edgar Poe; and when a long list of students summoned to appear before the Albemarle grand jury was made out, Poe was not included, tho many of his boon companions were. Poe was not, then, among the offenders known to university or civil law, but from the private testimony of his college mates it is evident that he did sometimes play seven-up and loo, his favorite games, for money. That he was not so expert as Tucker considered him and his companions would seem to be established by his considerable losses. His partner, afterward a devout clergyman, and his adversaries, including frequently two friends, who became respectively a well-known divine and a pious judge, were far better known to the university sporting circle than was Poe.

"That there was much gambling at the university in the first sessions is, unfortunately, true. At one of the numerous trials conducted by the faculty a certain witness deposed that there were not fifty students at the university who did not play cards. With as much readiness and no less accuracy he might have affirmed that not fifty of the fathers of these students were free from the same vice. The sentiment against it in the faculty could not have been unyielding, for in 1825 three out of seven of the members wished gambling removed from the infractions punished seriously and transferred to the list of minor offenses punishable by insignificant fines. It is no excuse for gaming that it was common, and but little extenuation that sentiment against it was not strong, but when gaming was both common and but mildly condemned, it is uncharitable to select one out of many and pronounce him the arch-criminal. It is unreasonable and unjust to select as this arch-criminal Edgar Poe, who, when others were tried and expelled for this offense, never at any time fell under any kind of official censure."

Nevertheless, Poe, according to Mr. Wertenbaker, librarian of the university, confessed to gaming debts of about $2,000, and these debts were the reason for his ceasing to be a student in the institution after an attendance of but ten months. Says Mr. Kent:

"Poe was not expelled, nor dismissed, nor suspended, nor required to withdraw, nor forbidden to return, nor disciplined in

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any wise whatsoever at the University of Virginia; but Mr. Allan [his foster-father] was shocked and incensed at the extent of his dishonorable 'debts of honor'—which he at first refused to consider, but finally settled—and determined to put his extravagant foster-son in his counting-room."

DO READERS READ?

THE question, "What do readers read?" has frequently been discussed in these columns. A recent writer, however, asks a still more fundamental and vital question—"Do readers read at all?" The question is not intended to be a humorous paradox, but is put in all seriousness. A large portion of the readers in our public libraries, claims the writer (Mr. Arthur E. Bostwick, chief librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library), merely draw out books from a half-hearted, shallow curiosity, and return them after only trifling with them. Mr. Bostwick (in *The Critic*, July) calls attention to some statistical facts never before mentioned, which he regards as "worthy of all interest and attention." He writes:

"The librarian-in-charge of a crowded branch circulating-library in New York City had occasion to talk, not long ago, to one of her 'star' borrowers, a youth who had taken out his two good books a week regularly for nearly a year and whom she had looked upon as a model—so much so that she had never thought it necessary to advise with him regarding his reading. In response to a question this lad made answer somewhat as follows: 'Yes, ma'am, I'm doing pretty well with my reading. I think I should get on nicely if I could only once manage to read a book through; but somehow I can't seem to do it.' This boy had actually taken to his home nearly a hundred books, returning each regularly and borrowing another, without reading to the end of a single one of them. That this case is not isolated and abnormal, but is typical of the way in which a large class of readers treat books, there is, as we shall see, only too much reason to believe. . . . . .

"An investigation has been made of all works in more than one volume contained in seven branches of the Brooklyn Public Library, and with very few exceptions it has been found that each successive volume in a series has been read by fewer persons than the one immediately preceding. What is true of books in more than one volume is presumably also true, altho perhaps in a less degree, of one-volume works, altho we have no means of showing it directly. Among the readers of every book, then, there are generally some who, for one reason or other, do not read it to the end. Our question, 'Do readers read? is thus answered in the negative for a large number of cases. The supplementary question, 'Why do not readers read?' occurs at once, but an attempt to answer it would take us rather too deeply into psychology. Whether this tendency to leave the latter part of books unread is increasing or not we can tell only by repeating the present investigation at intervals of a year or more. The probability is that it is due to pure lack of interest. For some reason or other, many persons begin to read books that fail to hold their attention. In a large number of cases this is doubtless due to a feeling that one 'ought to read' certain books and certain classes of books. A sense of duty carries the reader part way through his task, but he weakens before he has finished it. This shows how necessary it is to stimulate one's general interest in a subject before advising him to read a book that is not itself calculated to arouse and sustain that interest. . . . . .

"In the following table, the average circulation of first volumes, second volumes, etc., is given for each of seven classes of works. The falling-off from volume to volume is noticeable in each class. It is most marked in science, and least so, as might be expected, in fiction. Yet it is remarkable that there should be any falling-off at all in fiction. The record shows that the proportion of readers who can not even read to the end of a novel is relatively large. These are doubtless the good people who speak of Dickens as 'solid reading' and who regard Thackeray with as remote an eye as they do Gibbon. For such 'The Duchess' furnishes good mental pabulum, and Miss Corelli provides flights into the loftier regions of philosophy.

Class.	Vol. I.	Vol. II.	Vol. III.	Vol. IV.	Vol. V.	Vol. VI.	Vol. VII.	Vol. VIII.	Vol. IX.	Vol. X.	Vol. XI.	Vol. XII.
History	10.1	6.9	4.9	4.4	4.6	4.3	2.5	2.8	1.0	0.5	1.0	3.0
Biography,.	7.2	5.1	3.0	2.3	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.2	1.0	2.0		
Travel	9.2	7.9										
Literature..	7.3	5.9	3.5	3.8	5.3	6.6	19.0	15.0	21.0			
Arts	4.7	3.7	3.0									
Sciences,...	5.2	2.7	1.5									
Fiction.....	22.0	18.9	15.8	16.0	26.0	16.0						

"The figures in the table, as has been stated, are averages, and the number of cases averaged decreases rapidly as we reach the later volumes, because, of course, the number of works that run beyond four or five volumes is relatively small. . . . . That the falling-off from beginning to end in such long works is much more striking than would appear from the averages alone may be seen from the following records of separate works in numerous volumes:

	Vol. I.	Vol. II.	Vol. III.	Vol. IV.	Vol. V.	Vol. VI.	Vol. VII.	Vol. VIII.	Vol. IX.	Vol. X.
HISTORY.										
Grote, "Greece".....	11	6	5	2	1	0	1	1	1	0
Bancroft, "United States".....	22	10	6	8	10	8				
Hume, "England"	24	7	5	2	1	1				
Gibbon, "Rome"	38	12	7	3	4	6				
Motley, "United Netherlands"....	7	1	1	1						
Prescott, "Ferdinand and Isabella,"	20	4	2							
Carlyle, "French Revolution" ...	18	10	8							
McCarthy, "Our Own Times"....	27	8	11							
BIOGRAPHY.										
Bourienne, "Memoirs of Napoleon"	19	18	9	7						
Longfellow, "Life".....	6	4	2							
Nicolay and Hay, "Lincoln"	6	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	2
Carlyle, "Frederick the Great" ...	7	3	2	2	2					
FICTION.										
Dumas, "Vicomte de Bragelonne"	31	30	24	22	21	16				
Dumas, "Monte Cristo"	27	17	18							
Dickens, "Our Mutual Friend"....	5	4	1	0						
Stowe, "Uncle Tom's Cabin".....	37	24								

"Of course, these could be multiplied indefinitely. They are sufficiently interesting apart from all comment. One would hardly believe without direct evidence that of thirty-one persons who began one of Dumas's romances scarcely half would read it to the end, or that not one of five persons who essayed Dickens's 'Mutual Friend' would succeed in getting through it. Those who think that there can be no pathos in statistics are invited to ponder this table deeply. Can any one think unmoved of those two dozen readers who, feeling impelled by desire for an intellectual stimulant to take up Hume, found therein a soporific instead and fell by the wayside?"

NOTES.

THE late Sir Walter Besant's autobiography is still in the hands of his literary agent and executor, Mr. A. P. Watt. It is written up to last February, and when published will no doubt prove of great interest, since Sir Walter knew nearly everybody worth knowing in England for the past half-century.

THE worshipful mayor of Winchester, England—formally the capital of the English kings—has sent an appeal to all British and American admirers of King Alfred for contributions to the fund for a colossal statue soon to be erected in honor of the good king in that town, in memory of the 1,000th anniversary of his death. The memorial is to consist not only of a statue of King Alfred, but of a hall to be used as an educational museum of early English history. The work on the statue, entrusted to Mr. Harris Thornycroft, R.A., is now nearing completion. The figure is of heroic size, and the base consists of two rough-hewn granite blocks, one weighing forty tons and the other fifty. A curious feature of the circular sent out by the mayor and commemoration committee is the heading, in which Alfred is termed "The great forerunner of Washington and Lincoln." Among American colleges invited to send delegates to the meeting in October are the Universities of California, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Yale. Contributions to commemorate "our greatest common ancestor, and the most perfect hero of the whole English-speaking race," may be sent to Professor Bright, of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, or to Mr. Alfred Bowker, mayor of Winchester, and in either case will be duly acknowledged.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

WILL OUR POPULATION DECREASE?

WE are so accustomed to regard our population as steadily and swiftly increasing that it is with something of a shock that we learn of the constantly growing reduction in the birth-rate of the country during recent years. This is masked at present by a large immigration, but it is quite possible that at some time in the future it may cause as widespread alarm here as the similar condition has been causing in France. Says *The Medical News* (July 20), in a leading editorial on the subject:

"A century ago the sterility of American women was but 2 per cent., the lowest of any population in the civilized world, and the average number of children to a marriage was six. At present the national sterility is said to have risen to the alarming figure of 20 per cent. and the average number of children to the marriage is but two. This certainly represents a state of affairs which, if true, deserves serious attention, and all the more so since all the civilized countries are now waking up to the realization that factors are at work for the reduction of population in our advancing civilization that threaten to far more than neutralize the gain in numbers that might be anticipated from sanitary improvements and reduced mortality."

But aside from actual numerical decrease of native inhabitants, a misfortune that already stares France in the face and is perhaps not far distant for the United States, certain ethical considerations are called to our attention by the writer, in this connection. The editor of a periodical so little sensational as *Harper's Magazine* spoke some words of warning on the subject in the July number. Discussing modern love and love stories, he speaks of "that revolution through which woman has come to live for herself—for her individual development, rather than for the race," and adds:

"If we take a narrow and aristocratic section of contemporary humanity, the result seems disastrous. It has been estimated that in fifteen consecutive blocks on upper Fifth Avenue there are but fifteen children. And, taking a more general view, we can not but consider the denial of motherhood to so many women, whether it be voluntary or involuntary, the saddest tragedy of our modern life."

The Medical News's comment on this is as follows:

"This is, of course, a pregnant aspect of a great social question. As physicians we are much more concerned with it than might at first sight appear. Undoubtedly there is a tendency in the up-to-date physician to advise too readily against maternity and its attendant cares. It is always a question whether the childless woman or the mother wrapped up in every phase of the health of a single child is really in the end less free from care than her sisters with children and their concomitant duties. Occupation of mind and a definite purpose in life are often the best remedies that can be prescribed for the nervous woman whose time hangs so heavily on her hands that morbid introspection and magnification of symptoms become the burden of existence. While at present the weight of medical influence is exerted toward the limitation of families, it would seem to be safer physically and morally to throw it rather on the other side of the scale, so that larger families than are at present the rule would become the mode.

"Prophecies are always dangerous things—for the prophet, at least—yet at times they teach the lesson of present tendencies better than any mere review. Mr. H. G. Wells, in a series of articles of forecast called 'Anticipations' that have appeared in recent numbers of the English *Fortnightly Review* and *The North American Review*, lets his prophetic spirit attempt to foreshadow some of the results that may flow from sterile marriages. 'Will a generation,' he asks, 'for whom marriage will no longer be associated with the birth and rearing of children, or with the immediate cooperation and sympathy of husband and wife in common proceedings, retain its present feeling for the extreme sanctity of the permanent marriage bond?' This seems a far cry from the present *laissez aller* conditions. It may even appear too wanting in confidence for the future of the race to anticipate serious ethical demoralization from what is apparently only a little selfish withdrawal from family cares in this generation. Mr. Wells's prophecy becomes more interesting from this standpoint as it proceeds. He foresees even the loss of the present respect for woman and her character if she should continue to shirk her plain duties to the race. . . . . .

"These startlingly plain words from non-medical observers are stronger than any protestations that were made at the meeting of the American Medical Association, tho there the subject was treated with ungloved hands. The consensus of opinion among candid and unselfish-minded students of the question shows how serious and how urgent are the dangers pointed out. This is not a question to be discussed sensationally and then allowed to drop, because there is no complete practical solution of the problems it involves near at hand. Factors for the simplification of the problem we have at command and they must be employed. The recognition of the dangers ahead is of itself a step in the right direction. Medical influence can accomplish some of the beneficent purposes of avoiding the serious evils, and the propaganda of right-minded views in the matter of the limitation of families will help to ward off threatened dangers."

LEPERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THERE are at least one thousand lepers in this country—such is the conclusion reached by the commission of experts that has been investigating the subject for the past two years. Most of these are immigrants, and strong recommendations for their segregation will be made to Congress, so that we may shortly possess a regular leper colony of no mean size. Says *The Tribune* (New York, July 11), in a despatch from Washington:

"The commission, consisting of Surgeon J. H. White, chairman, and Passed Assistant Surgeons G. T. Vaughn and M. J. Rosenau, have been working under congressional authority since 1899, making a scientific investigation of the extent of the disease in America. They sent circular letters to physicians, health officers, hospital superintendents, and others in six hundred localities, covering the entire country, asking for reports and information regarding leprosy patients. Eight thousand circulars have been sent out, and only two thousand replies have been received. From these 277 lepers have been located and their names and addresses obtained. About one hundred are known to live in New Orleans, many of whom are well-to-do persons of good families. In Minnesota about twenty cases have been reported, the disease there being found mostly among the Scandinavians living in the rural districts. In New York seven cases have been reported, while in Chicago only three have been found so far. In San Francisco fifteen cases are known, twelve of which are confined in the pest-house. There are fifteen in North Dakota, and only two in South Dakota. In New Mexico there are at least a dozen, and Baltimore reports three cases. The remainder are scattered throughout the country. Owing to the fact that three-fourths of the circulars have brought no replies, especially from suspicious districts, the authorities estimate that only about one-fourth of the cases of leprosy have been reported.

"The commission will almost certainly recommend to Congress in its forthcoming preliminary report in December that national lazarettos be established in several parts of the country—one, perhaps, at New Orleans, one in New Mexico, and another in Minnesota or Montana. A generous appropriation will be asked, large enough to cover the erection of fine isolated buildings, attractively equipped with every imaginable convenience for the comfort and pleasure of the sufferers. By this means it is hoped to overcome the general antipathy to isolation of the diseased, and thus remove the greatest obstacle in the way of preventing the disease from spreading.

"Not the least interesting result accomplished by the investigation is the conviction of the experts that, notwithstanding the widespread distribution of leprous patients in the United States and the increase in the last decade, there is little ground for alarm. They are assured that the disease is not so fatal or so readily transmitted by contagion, infection, or association as tuberculosis. It has also been shown that cases are not uncommon

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where lepers are temporarily cured by a couple of years' treatment. Under ordinary conditions, such as exist in New York, for instance, in the opinion of the experts, there is at least a hundred times more danger of contracting consumption than there is of falling a victim to the contagiousness of leprosy."

GLOBE-CIRCLING IN AN AIR-SHIP.

IT is reported that M. Santos Dumont, the Franco-Brazilian expert in dirigible balloons, has in view an attempt to travel around the world in one of his air-ships. On July 12 there was a successful trial of his latest balloon in Paris. Some of the correspondents were very enthusiastic over the results. Says *The Sun* (New York, July 14):

"The gifted Brazilian's performances yesterday and to-day were as much in advance of Count Zeppelin's and other previous accomplishments as the latter surpassed ordinary ballooning.

"M. Santos Dumont mounted, alighted, and reascended time after time without accessories and as easily and gracefully as a great bird would take wing and come to the earth. He flew high, low, in straight lines, and in curves with the wind against him, precisely as he willed. He was master of the air as truly as a navigator of a steamship is master of the waves.

"True, his craft was by no means perfected any more than the early steamboat compares with the modern liners. The problem of aerial navigation, however, is solved. Of that no possible doubt remains in the minds of those who were awakened at early dawn by strange sounds in the heavens, and who saw the wonderful evolutions of the strange thing which soared above their roofs. One or two minor defects, which were easily remedied in a few hours, prevented the complete carrying out of the tests yesterday and to-day, but it is safe to prophesy that within a month M. Santos Dumont's invention will hold as complete dominion over the air, except during storms, as the ship does over the sea.

"Some experts who watched the great aerostat hold the opinion that the ultimate development of aerial navigation will be by air-ships, which fly by self-generated power, without the air of a gas balloon. This is as it may be; but for the present there is no doubt that flying-machines will include a balloon of sufficient buoyancy to practically balance the weight of the apparatus and passengers."

The aeronaut's immediate object has been to win the prize offered a year ago by M. Doupech, a petroleum refiner of Rouen. The conditions were that a start be made in the neighborhood of St. Cloud, that the Eiffel Tower be circled three times, and that the air-ship then return to its starting-place at an average speed of not less than thirteen miles an hour. Says the writer:

"M. Santon Dumont startled Paris yesterday by flying around the Eiffel Tower in a balloon that he seemed to be able to steer at will and gave a second performance of its remarkable dirigible qualities this morning, for a prize of 100,000 francs ($20,000). This amount has been offered by M. Henri Deutsch, a French aeronaut, for a manageable balloon.

"In order to win the prize M. Santos Dumont had to journey from the Longchamps racecourse, sail around the Eiffel Tower, and return to Longchamps within fifty minutes. . . . . .

"The balloon is constructed of some light-colored material and is apparently 150 feet long and 40 feet wide at its greatest width. Below it hangs a kind of open-work platform containing a small petroleum motor. Behind this and about midway between the platform and the balloon proper is a two-flanged screw, with a small sail to serve as a rudder. M. Santos Dumont sat in the forward part of the car, handling the lines which control the engine and the rudder."

In spite of the somewhat sensational opening of the foregoing despatch, the balloon seems to have had the fault of all its kind—it could not make headway against a strong wind, and finally came to grief, the petroleum being exhausted after a five minutes' struggle with adverse air currents, placing the balloon at the mercy of the breeze. It finally blew into a clump of trees and was considerably damaged. Experts declare, however, that on a calm day M. Dumont can easily win the prize. The aeronaut is thus described in *The Times* (New York, July 13):

"M. Santos Dumont is a young and wealthy Brazilian who makes Paris his home. He is an automobile enthusiast, and it was the motor vehicle that gave him the first idea which led to his air machine. The gasoline motors that propel the automobiles at the rate of many miles an hour appeared to him to furnish just the combination of force and lightness necessary to aerial navigation. . . . . .

"The young inventor has spent an enormous amount of money in trying to perfect his dirigible balloon. His experiments with motors alone cost a fortune. The one he uses now weighs only fifty pounds, and has three and one-half horse-power."

In an interview reported in *The Sun* (July 16), he speaks of his work as follows:

"I may drop this pursuit, but that does not matter. If I do not work at it, others will. Aerial navigation has now reached a point where it can not fall into oblivion. At present a trip is somewhat expensive owing to the cost of hydrogen gas. They charge me four francs a cubic meter, so every time I take the balloon out its inflation alone costs 2,500 francs ($500)."

Speaking of the adoption of a petroleum motor, which is his own idea, he said:

"All the ballooning authorities told me I was a madman and that the balloon would certainly blow up. M. Lachambre, the great balloon-maker of Paris, of whom I ordered my first steerable balloon, had already stitched the silk when he learned that I was going to use a petroleum motor. He thereupon refused to deliver the balloon, saying that he would not be a party to such a piece of folly."

In another interview M. Santos Dumont asserted that he does not contemplate selling his invention to any government. "Anybody who wants my secret can have it," he said; "besides, there is no secret to-day. If I took out a patent anybody could copy it."

Electricity Direct from Coal.—For years inventors have been trying to devise a profitable method of producing electricity by the direct oxidation of carbon in a battery instead of through the intermediaries of heat and the steam-engine. That this can be done was shown over half a century ago, but no commercially practicable method of accomplishing it on a large scale has yet been devised. Among those who have been studying the problem of late are Edison and Dr. Jacques, of Boston. The latter thought, a few years ago, that he had solved it. The Jacques carbon battery was described at length in these columns. Its claims have not been justified. The very latest invention along this line has been made by Hugo Jones, an assistant city chemist of Chicago, who has invented a carbon battery that he claims will yield 35 per cent of the energy that is stored up in coal, or four times as much as the present combination of boiler, steam-engine, and dynamo. Says *The Tribune* (New York, July 15):

"Sulfate of lead instead of sulfate of zinc is used in the new battery. . . . In the Jones battery coal is mixed with sulfate of lead in a reduction retort, and the mixture is heated. The coal converts the sulfate into lead and sulfur dioxid, which produces the electric current, and then again forms sulfate of lead. This process is capable of being continued indefinitely, the only thing consumed being the coal. The lead sulfate, being insoluble, drops to the bottom of the battery and accumulates. It can easily be removed bodily, but may remain at the bottom for a long time. All this time the battery can be kept running, while an ordinary battery stops as soon as the acid liquid has taken up too much metal. In the Jones battery the liquid never becomes saturated. . . . Another advantage in the use of lead sulfate is the fact that this sulfate is decomposed by coal at a lower temperature and more easily. The placing of the cells around the retort is another feature of Mr. Jones's battery which differs from the ordinary zinc battery, and saves much energy. The

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new battery may be compared to a furnace using coal, but giving off electricity instead of heat. Nothing is consumed except coal and the oxygen of the air. The lead is easily recovered as sulfate, and used over again. The work is done by the coal."

Dr. Jacques's battery was hailed with joy as about to revolutionize industry. Apparently its failure to do so has not been without effect, for the present invention is put forward with modesty. Time alone will show its value.

FIRST TURBINE PASSENGER-STEAMER.

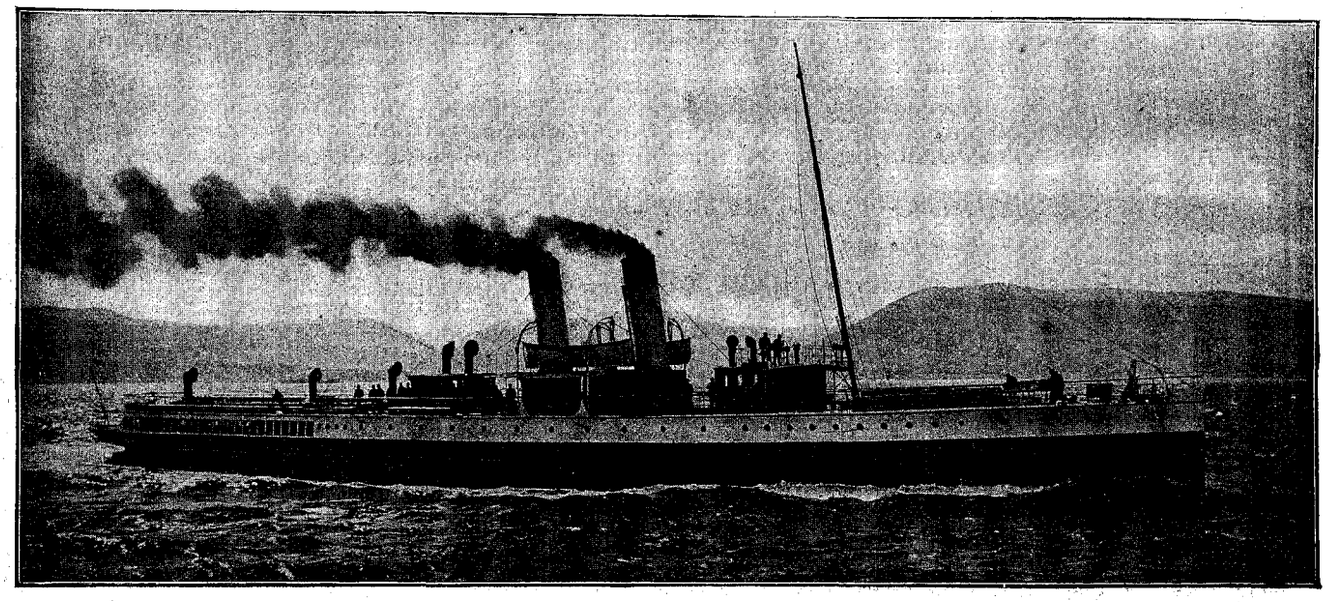
THE *King Edward*, the first passenger-steamer to be driven by turbine motors, has just had her trial trip on the Clyde, in Scotland. It is thought by advocates of the new motor that it will eventually be used even for the largest craft, and will revolutionize ocean traffic on account of the phenomenal speed that it develops. Others, more conservative, think that it can never be applied to large ocean steamers. The *King Edward* is a small boat, 250 feet long. The English correspondent of *The Scientific American* (July 20) writes as follows to that paper regarding the new vessel:

"After the satisfactory results obtained from steam-turbines in driving vessels of the torpedo-boat type, it was inevitable that this system should be tried in other vessels where high speed was desired. The first attempt to utilize this method of driving for a passenger-vessel has just been made on the Clyde in the steamer *King Edward*, of which we are able to give herewith a photograph specially taken for us on her first trial run. The *King Edward* has been built by Messrs. William Denny & Brothers to designs by their own draughtsmen, working in combination with the Hon. C. A. Parsons, and she is intended for service between Fairlie and Campbelltown.

"There is very keen competition for the passenger-carrying traffic on the Clyde, three different railway companies being interested, and the boats engaged are the finest river steamers in Britain. This seemed to offer a promising field in which to test the turbine principle, but the Parsons Marine Steam Turbine Company failed to induce any of the competing companies to experiment with the turbine. The project seemed likely to be shelved, when Messrs. Denny took the matter up, and in conjunction with the Parsons Company and Captain Williamson agreed to build the vessel as an independent experiment.

"In the hull of the boat there is comparatively little calling for special attention, altho it is evident at a glance that she has been lined in such a manner as to give the turbines the greatest possible opportunity for making a record in speed. The model of the hull carries more than a suggestion of the torpedo-boat form, altho it has been modified to suit the passenger trade. She has a shallow-draft hull of exceptionally fine entrance and run, with the beam carried well forward. There are three propeller-shafts and five propellers, two of them being carried on each of the side shafts, and a larger one on the central shaft.

"It is in the machinery, however, that the chief interest of the boat lies. It consists of three turbines, all separate, and each driving one of the shafts. The high-pressure turbine is placed on the center shaft, and each of the low-pressure turbines drives one of the outer shafts. Inside the exhaust ends of each of the latter were placed the two astern turbines. In driving ahead in the ordinary way, the steam from the boilers is admitted to the high-pressure turbines, and after expanding it about five-fold, it is passed to the low-pressure turbines, where it is expanded about twenty-five-fold more and then passed on to the condensers. This gives a total expansion ratio of about 125-fold. At twenty knots speed—and this has already been obtained without any excessive driving—the speed of the center shaft is 700, and that of the two outer shafts 1,000 revolutions per minute. When coming alongside a jetty or maneuvering in a harbor, the outer shafts only are used, and steam is admitted by suitable valves directly into the low-pressure motors, or into the reversing motors independently on either side of the vessel. The high-pressure turbine under these circumstances revolves idly, its steam-admission valve being closed, and its connection with the low-pressure turbines being also closed by non-return valves. By this arrangement great maneuvering power has been secured. Up to the time of writing there have been several trials of the vessel, and the engineers declare themselves as perfectly satisfied with her last test. She easily made twenty knots, and even at this speed there was a noticeable absence of vibration. The comparatively small space occupied by the engines leaves large accommodation for passengers—a consideration of much value in the trade in which she will be engaged."



THE FIRST PASSENGER TURBINE STEAMER, "KING EDWARD."

Some of the advantages gained by the boat in using the new form of motor are noted in an article in *Engineering* (London). Says the writer:

"The keen bow and easy delivery are made possible by the lightness of Parsons's turbine engines. The weight of the motors, condensers, with water in them, steam-pipes, auxiliaries connected with the propelling machinery, shafting, propellers, etc., is sixty-six tons. This, we believe, is considered to be about half the weight per indicated horse-power developed of the average of the propelling machinery of paddle-boats of a similar type. There is also a gain in the hull construction due to the absence of paddle-boxes and sponsons.

"Another advantage resulting from the use of the turbine machinery is the additional passenger accommodations that can be provided.

"Still another advantage due to the adoption of this machinery

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is the noiselessness with which it runs. So far as the turbines themselves are concerned, it is not possible to tell whether they are running or not by placing one's hand on them. There is, however, a very slight vibration that can be felt right astern, and this is due to the propellers. Whether this can be eliminated or not remains to be seen, but certainly no vibration is set up by the main engines themselves. At the bow end motion is similar to that of a fast sailing-yacht; and it might have been better had the main saloon been placed forward instead of aft.

"It had been expected that the vessel would be very difficult to bring alongside a wharf, and, judging by experience with torpedo-boat destroyers, the prediction was not unwarranted. This must always be more or less the case with lightly built vessels having small rise of floor, little lateral resistance, and somewhat high superstructure. The fine lines of the *King Edward*, with her long bow and lean quarters, however, give a good deal of approximately vertical surface at the ends, and this probably accounts for the ease with which she took Rothsay pier on her first run on her regular route, made for experimental purposes, on this day last week. In regard to the fine shape of the boat, it may be pointed out that the low center of gravity of the turbine machinery gives good stability without the necessity for a hard bilge or long floor; in fact, this type of machinery lends itself readily to a form of hull conducive to high speed."

IS THE HOT SPELL DUE TO VARIATIONS IN THE SUN?

REPORTS from the Western States of crops seriously damaged, of live-stock perishing, and of heat-records broken have been matters of daily occurrence. The excessive heat has not, however, been limited to any particular section of the United States, nor to the United States itself. In European countries, and generally throughout the northern hemisphere, the summer has been one of unusual fervency. Garrett P. Serviss sees in this fact "convincing proof" that the earth is a satellite of a variable star, and he explains himself (in *The Journal*, New York, July 24) as follows:

"Only on the assumption that the source of terrible heat is directly in the sun and due to an extraordinary increase in its effective radiation can the widespread and long-continued nature of the present meteorologic disaster be satisfactorily explained. Local causes are insufficient. The earth itself contains no store of heat capable of accounting for the outburst, and the suggested explanation that we are passing through a region of space where an uncommonly high temperature prevails is invalidated, if for no other reason, by the fact that similar periods of excessive temperature have occurred many times within the limits of recorded history and in a certain cyclical order, while from what we know of the direction of motion of the solar system through space we can confidently affirm that the earth does not pass again and again through the same region, but flies always northward along with the sun. Accordingly, we are driven to the belief that the source of the trouble is only in the sun.

"All astronomers know that the face of the sun is blanketed with absorbing vapors, while its interior is much hotter than the glowing shell that we see. Strip off the vaporous blanket entirely, and the surface of the earth would probably burst into smoke and flame in the instantaneous gush of unbearable heat that would be poured upon it. Whenever, as occurs periodically, tho not always to the same extent, the solar vapors are thinned, the heat from within leaps out through the weakened shell and strikes the earth and the other nearby planets as with a breath of fire from the suddenly opened door of a blazing furnace."

This, says Mr. Serviss, is what has occurred this summer, and the same mysterious power that has sent forth these destroying blasts of heat is responsible also for the spots upon the sun. That is, the unusual heat and the sun-spots are results of the same solar convulsion. He continues:

"There are manifestations of the opening of a new sun-spot period before the spots themselves have begun to break forth in any number. Presently they will follow, and half-way between the equator and the poles of the sun congeries of black aureolæ, with blazing, white patches about them, will break forth, and the spectroscope will show, shooting upward from these volcanic centers of disturbance, immense masses of metallic vapor and gleaming hydrogen leaping hundreds of thousands of miles high and giving an impressive demonstration of the unimaginable might of the forces that wrench the center of the solar system. For the next four years these gigantic outbursts will increase in fury, and a corresponding series of terrestrial seasons, marked by great excesses of temperature, sudden contrasts, and extraordinary cyclonic disturbances, will follow.

"Nothing can be more certain than an increase in the near future in the number of auroral displays and magnetic storms, consequent upon the recurrence of the solar disorders. Dr. W. J. S. Lockyer has just shown by an elaborate comparison of data that there is a great sun-spot cycle, overlying the ordinary eleven-year cycle, once in thirty-five years, and that we are now at the beginning of this great cycle. Its culmination will coincide with that of 1870, a cycle that was famous for its intensity."

ELECTRICAL COMFORTS IN MIDSUMMER.

THE recent great heat has not caused as much suffering as it would have caused twenty-five years ago; and we are indebted to various electrical devices for our comparative comfort. To most of us it seems that "comfort" is hardly the word to use; but *The Electrical World and Engineer* assures us, in a series of leading editorial paragraphs (July 13), that the telephone, the electric fan, and the trolley have been making the dog-days quite bearable for us. Says that paper:

"The hot weather of last week, to equal which in intensity the meteorological authorities have had to go back 30 years, had many mitigations that were not available to the last generation; and they were largely of an electrical nature. For example, great use was made of the telephone, enabling men to sit in their offices or country homes and transact business at a distance without any necessity to trudge the Saharan streets. They say the ordeal is a trying one at such seasons to the little telephone girl, but she does her work bravely and well. Then there is the now ubiquitous fan motor, bringing 'sea breezes' into the hottest building. Last week their popularity was immense as a relief to weary people, and the market was soon swept bare of them. We have heard of one society woman who, with a sick member of her family under the weather, went to an electrical store, and being told all the fans in sight were already sold, laid violent hands on one and refused to be comforted until she was allowed to carry it away in perspiring triumph in her carriage.

"As for the electric light, that has long been a familiar boon, but one needs to get out in the country or by the seaside, where only oil-lamps and candles are available, to realize once more how grateful and cool the little incandescent lamp is. Moreover, in town the ice-cream freezer or the electric stove can be run from the same circuit as the lamp; but in the holiday wilds brute force and fire again are disagreeably necessary. The wonder is that electricity is still so little known and used outside the towns and cities. It is most needed by the sad sea waves and amid the cornfields and potato patches.

"Perhaps the biggest electric boon of all in such calcining weather as that which has been the subject of so much flattering comment recently is the trolley car. All the street-railway companies report a busy time, and their employees were worked to the point of exhaustion. Any cursory glance at the cars will show that the travel is quite largely of a recreative character, especially in the hot nights, when entire families with the latest ailing little baby board the cars to go for a 15-mile cruise for 5 cents a head—of the adults. The sick man does not now take up his bed and walk. He gets relief these summer nights by jumping on the first trolley and leaving his bed behind him. The trolley car thus does *en masse* for the suffering population that which electricity does more individually for members of the community who can each pay for a telephone, a lamp, a fan motor, and a freezer for themselves. Great indeed is electricity in the dog-days!"

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

DEPRESSION: A RELIGIOUS MALADY OF THE TIMES.

MR. W. H. MALLOCK, in his celebrated book "Is Life Worth Living?" long ago attempted to show that on account of the widespread decadence of faith, due to the combined assaults of science and historical criticism despondence and pessimism are an almost inevitable attitude of mind with the modern man. Mr. Mallock found the only remedy for this in a return to dogma and authority as found in the Roman Catholic Church. The same diagnosis is made by Mr. Walter J. Baylis (in *The Westminster Review*, July), but he proposes a different remedy. With regard to the present state of Christendom he writes:

"Without going into theological questions, few competent authorities will be disposed to deny that a great deal of Christian theology, which was once firmly believed in and made the basis of Christian ethics, is now no longer tenable. The dropping of a few theological articles would perhaps matter little if we could be sure where we would stop, and if it could be shown that the overthrow of the theological structure of Christianity would not effect its moral authority. That, however, is just what can not be shown. The ethical authority of a religion can hardly survive the theology which constitutes to so great an extent the religion itself—which is, at any rate, the skeleton or framework upon which the religion is built. The Christian religion can not afford to be brought down to the level of that of Confucius, which is simply a collection of moral apothegms, without any ultimate authority beyond their inherent merits. The authority of Christian ethics must necessarily stand or fall with the truth of Christian theology. The most logical minds can not help seeing this and appreciating the consequent chaos in ethics. *Hinc illæ lachrymæ.*

"The real moving force in the world of to-day is *Science*. While it is not meant to be implied that religion is no longer believed in, it is certainly not held with the unwavering faith of the Middle Ages, nor even with the somewhat less settled faith of the Puritans. While in the Middle Ages everybody believed in religion and knew little or nothing of science, to-day everybody believes in science, simply because he can not help it, and only the second place is left for religion in the intellectual microcosm.

"While science has thus largely displaced religion and shaken the authority which Christian ethics formerly exercised over us, she has not so far succeeded in furnishing us with a satisfactory system of moral philosophy to take the place of supernatural ethics. Various attempts in this direction have been made, but no signal success has yet been achieved. At all events, no scientific ethical system has yet succeeded in commanding any great degree of popularity even among the best-educated classes. It has almost become a commonplace to say that we are in an age of transition. The present age bears a considerable resemblance to the declining days of paganism, when the philosophers were undermining the old religion with their criticism and the new religion was struggling into life. While Christianity is not perhaps being destroyed as paganism was destroyed, it is undoubtedly going through a very critical evolutionary phase, and it seems inevitable that it will issue from the ordeal a very different kind of religion from what it was, say, a century ago.

"Such ages of transition are frequently periods of melancholy. Men's minds are unsettled, and there is a general spirit of uneasiness abroad. When the Roman empire was under the government of the Antonines, altho the period was one of the great material prosperity (just like our own Victorian epoch in that respect), it was yet tinged with a kind of intellectual sadness. A beautiful picture of the dying pagan world has been given to us by that wonderfully delicate writer, Walter Pater, in his 'Marius, the Epicurean.'"

The remedies which Mr. Baylis proposes for all this are as far as possible from the panacea of Mr. Mallock. He says:

"What we want is greater simplicity and more freedom in discussing vital questions. A great deal of the pessimism of which we hear so much to-day is bred by the impatience which thinking men can not help feeling at the shallow optimism of popular authors. In our opinion the proper attitude of mind is neither pessimism nor optimism, but what may be described as meliorism; that is to say, the view that, altho the world is doubtless bad enough, it is quite capable of being mended, and that it rests mainly with ourselves to make it a very happy place indeed. What we suffer from nature is, after all, very small in comparison with what we suffer from one another. It is true that a hurricane, an earthquake, or a shipwreck may cause serious and undeserved loss of life. True that disease may assail us, and that death is bound to be our portion sooner or later. These things have to be borne, and would be far more tolerable if we had nothing to suffer from one another. But

> Man's inhumanity to man
> Makes countless thousands mourn.

The depressed mind seeks for sympathy, and that is not always to be obtained. . . . . .

"To set things on a firm foundation again, we want full, free, and unlimited discussion. A recent writer has ventured to prophesy that what will seem to posterity to have been the most characteristic feature of the nineteenth century is its curious intellectual cowardice. Men are brave enough physically, but they are terribly afraid of new ideas. What hinders us but cowardice from setting resolutely to work to sound everything to the bottom, and making up our minds to drop all conceptions out of the furniture of our minds that are no longer logically tenable? Thus only can we hope to lay the foundations of a firm faith for the future. Let us 'prove all things and hold fast that which is good.' If we can not believe in the traditions of the past, let us find something in which we can believe. This will be the task for the twentieth century—to find a faith credible to enlightened men, and also to apply to the improvement of human society, and the removal of morbid conditions of life, the immense acquisitions in scientific knowledge which have been made for us by the master-minds of the century just closed."

In Germany, the tendency toward intellectual depression seems to be especially marked, and two eminent German writers and critics, the brothers Jules and Henri Hart, are at the head of a movement to counteract it. Monsieur S. C. de Soissons, in a recent number of *The Contemporary Review*, gives a sketch of this movement. He writes thus of the aims of its founders:

"The source of our sufferings, our griefs, and our miseries, is the acknowledgment that there are contradictions in our existence, and that we are unable to solve them. But it is time to convince ourselves that all contradictions exist purely in our minds, in our ideas. The old way of looking at the world was either purely the result of thinking and was logical, idealistic, and common sense; or it was the result of observation, trying to understand the nature of things by experience, in a materialistic way. The result of this state of things was a one-sided view of the world, and a continual contest between ideas conceived in the mind and experimental observation. The reality of the outward world, and our own existence, can not be determined only by ideas produced in our minds, neither can they be determined only by scientific knowledge; they must both be felt by the whole of the human being, that is to say, they must be lived through. . . . Their aim is to make broader our ideas about the eternal changes and development of things, to persuade the people that contradictions do not really exist, that there is a close union between the outward world and the inward ego; they strive to inspire their friends with the sentiments of joy and freedom, strength and unconquerableness, self-improvement and self-respect; they wish to produce a joyfully active people, who long to realize their ideals in life. 'Only by deeds can we show that which we represent to ourselves. Only deeds are convincing.' In the solemn public meetings of the society organized by them, the brothers Hart see one of the many means of combating the silly, commonplace views of our contemporaries. A one-sided rationalism has checked the lively impulse of our sentiments, and destroyed in our practical and sober life the feeling of solemnity. The deep and eternal tendency to art, which is innate in human kind, induced it to celebrate great festivals which connect the man with the unknown beginning of existence. In the mysteries of antiquity man endeavored to express by various symbols

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his relation toward the universe, and his soul was filled with pure and elevated feeling. The modern way of looking at the world makes us indifferent to such festivals, to such elevated feeling, to religious ceremonies, but it gives us nothing equally good in exchange. There is no unity in our culture. Religion and art, science and morals, contend with each other, and divide our lives into separate morsels, not united by anything. It is true that we should acknowledge the great importance of unity of religion, science, art, and life; we should perceive their mutual accord. From that sentiment of union originated formerly all religious festivities; the modern man needs similar fêtes and a new and bright way of looking at the world."

STRIFE OF KENSITITE AND RITUALIST IN ENGLAND.

ALTHO for the past year the English "church crisis" has been in some respects less acute, the Protestant Party has by no means relinquished its determination to make the Church of England conform to its own views of what is proper religious ceremonial and doctrine. "Anti-Romanizing" organizations have multiplied, and *The Rock* and other ultra-Protestant church papers abound in notices of such societies as the "Imperial Protestant Federation," the "Kensit Crusade," and the "Wickliffe Preachers," which by means of tracts, books, and lectures are trying to stem the tide of Catholic usage in the Church of England. On the other hand, the Catholic Party do not appear to be made uneasy by these assaults, and have now grown so powerful that perhaps they can afford to pass them by with pleasantry. One of their leading speakers, in referring to the present religious situation, declared that it was "the outcome of an agitation stirred up and fostered by bustling and aggressive booksellers [Kensit], irreverent brawlers, rhetorical peeresses, solemn visions of apocryphal quadrupeds, statesmen who had failed in politics, and that greatest and most marvelous production of the creative genius of the last century, the omnipotent and omniscient 'man-in-the-street.'"

The New York *Evangelist* (July 18) gives the following description of the "advanced" Anglican Church of All Saints, at South End, England, as an example of the extent to which a large section of the English church has become de-Protestantized. It says of this parish church and its services:

"The 'ornaments' here include three holy water-stoups, seven crucifixes, statues of the Good Shepherd, a white figure under a red velvet canopy; of the Virgin and Child, a colored figure under an oak canopy; and of the Baptism of Christ, white figures of Christ and John the Baptist, under a red canopy (with candle brackets) near the font; sixty-five pictures, amongst them fourteen of the stations of the cross; St. Veronica's handkerchief; the Virgin and Child with what appears to be a monk and a cardinal on one side and John the Baptist and a bishop on the other (medieval); John the Baptist and two monks; the Virgin receiving homage apparently from a pope and a bishop; a board headed R.I.P. Pray for the souls of these, who were once worshipers in this church.' Then follows a list of names of deceased persons. Besides there are, in the side-chapel, a tabernacle, six candles, a sacring-bell; in the lady-chapel, altar, six candles, sacring-bell, at the back of the altar a dossal, showing on the left side the Angel Gabriel, with the inscription 'Ave gratia plena,' on the right side of the Virgin, with the inscription 'Ecce Ancilla Domini'; in the southwest corner of the church, a confessional with curtains, confessions being heard on two fixed days in the week, and other times by appointment. A pamphlet distributed at the church describes in detail the extraordinary services at Passiontide and Easter at All Saints, Southend-on-Sea, all on the strict Roman model, including the service of Tenebræ on Maunday Thursday; on Good Friday the Veneration of the Cross and the mass of the Pre-Sanctified; on Saturday the Blessing of the Paschal Candle; on Easter Day 'Solemn High Mass' without communicants.

"On Sunday, the 11:30 A.M. celebration was a *Missa Cantata.* Every person present was provided with *The People's Eucharist* and a card headed 'Missa Cantata,' giving the words of the Asperges, Introit, etc. Nine candles were lighted before the 'mass,' six on the altar, two on the credence-table, and the Paschal candle. The altar had on it a tabernacle surmounted by a cross, and several vases of flowers. Before the altar burned one red lamp. Neither incense nor portable lights were used, but in all other respects the ritual closely followed that in the R. C. Missal. Before mass there was a procession round the church, consisting of a number of acolytes, seven little girls (dressed in different ways, but all wearing tulle veils), the choir, and the celebrant. The younger acolytes were dressed in red cassocks, shoes, and caps, with lace-trimmed cottas, and the elder acolytes wore albs, amices, and girdles. The celebrant wore a biretta and a white cope with magenta trimmings. In the manipulation of this garment he was assisted by two adult acolytes. A cross and five banners were carried, three of the latter by three of the aforementioned little girls. The service was distinguished by the following amongst other peculiarities: The words of the *Asperges* without the sprinkling; the ceremonial mixing of the chalice; the ablutions; a peculiar pirouette during the conclusion of the offertory, the *Benedictus qui venit*, extreme elevation and genuflection; the ringing of the church bell, and the raising of the chalice, during the Prayer of Consecration; the *Agnus Dei*, the triple beating of the breast before the priest's communion; one communicant."

A UNITARIAN ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

WHY has Christian Science gained such a hold upon the multitude of its believers? What is the secret of its wide and rapid popular success? These questions are being asked by many people at the present time, and answered in various ways. One answer of more than usual dispassionateness is given by the Rev. Celia Parker Woolley, a Unitarian minister of Chicago. "It will not do to flout results," says the writer, "by talk about popular ignorance and love of delusion—the average believer in the teachings of Mrs. Eddy is as intelligent and honest, probably, as the average believer in the doctrines of Calvin or Channing; the level of human culture and integrity is about the same in all the sects." Mrs. Woolley finds the explanation elsewhere. She says (in *The Christian Register*, Unit., July 4):

"We are just now passing through a period of mild reaction against the scientific teachings of an age devoted to evolution, whose imaginary threats and dangers have always loomed very big in the half-instructed mind. We are just entering an era of psychical investigation, which to some minds seems a glad release from science and all that the name implies, but whose results, to be worth anything, must be as scientifically deduced as the conclusions of a Darwin or Huxley. Christian Science is the most popular and prominent manifestation of this new psychic wave. It calls itself a science, claiming to rest on experimental data, and is propounded as a complete philosophy of life, including all the needed elements of belief and conduct; but it has seemed to me for a long time that Christian Science was neither science nor a system of philosophy, but a religion, and as such to be not only more leniently, but more justly judged. It is as a religion it has shown such marvelous power to persuade and uplift the lives of large masses of men and women. The majority of the readers of 'Science and Health,' it is safe to assume, care little for the theoretical merits of its teachings. The book is not of a kind to convince, but to cast a spell. It has one main thesis, that man is master of his own fate, because man is a spiritual being, alike in essence with the one who created him. This is the teaching also of the Beatitudes of Micah and Paul, of Plato and à Kempis, of all the seers, saints, and sages. 'Science and Health' states the proposition more crudely, covers it with a mass of undigested and fatuous reasoning, but at bottom is an hypothesis that each of us would gladly rest in if we could, —belief in the identity of the divine and the human, the God-in-man teaching of Jesus. It is hard to draw the line between this God-in-man theory and pantheism, a term which we allow to frighten us unnecessarily. The modern doctrine of the divine immanence is very closely allied to the old pantheistic conception. I do not myself feel so troubled over the moral implications or leadings of pantheism as Mr. Snyder and others do. Pan

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himself is dead. He blows his pipes no more by the river to lure man into the slough of bestial indulgence. We need fear no reversion to Greek ideals, which exalted the physical only because the spiritual was yet unknown. The ethical consciousness in man is fully awakened; and, if something like pantheism seems to define some of our conceptions of the universe, it is a pantheism sublimated with belief in spirit and humanized with a love of our fellow man. . . . . .

"I wish merely to call attention to what seem to me two very plain and natural reasons why Christian Science has met with its present degree of success. The first is the semi-miraculous view in which it holds the Bible, especially the New Testament. The Gospels are the first revelation of God to man, His spoken word, as 'Science and Health' the second. Very few religious believers to-day, even in the liberal churches, are willing to place the Bible on a purely human basis. The average mind, liberal or orthodox, dearly loves a little miracle. The phenomena of modern Spiritualism, theosophy, hypnotism, Christian Science, the faith and prayer cure, all help to feed this love of the marvelous. 'Who does not know that it is possible to be rationalistic and superstitious at once?' said George Eliot. This love of a belief founded in some law or circumstance outside the usual order of things, created in our special behoof and behalf, is one strong factor in this new movement. Mrs. Eddy's attitude toward her disciples, her voluntary self-withdrawal from the world, her refusal to appear on anniversary or other occasions of public celebrations, helps to preserve the feeling of mystery and the spirit of credence which have so preservative an influence upon many people's religious beliefs, tho I think it unwarranted and out of taste to accuse Mrs. Eddy of any ulterior motive here. She has shown she knows how to do without a certain kind of public acclamation and applause, and in that she sets an example to many other leaders.

"The second factor of success is more fundamental and must command respect, whether we think it justly founded or not. It is the claim which each disciple of the Christian Science faith is able to make of a personal experience on which his faith is founded. He believes, because he has demonstrated his belief. He has made a literal application of the text which proves faith by works. He has been cured. No matter how others receive his statement of fact, how the doctors and other wise ones account for it, to him the experience is as real as Paul's was on the road near Damascus. The cure with the Christian Science serves precisely the same purpose as the conversion on the revival bench did among our orthodox forbears. This direct, intimate, personal experience in religion is not a thing to be laughed or sneered at. On the contrary, however we name or come by it, it is the one thing altogether needful. It is this alone which can give the sense of moral victory, strength to resist and conquer. It is this alone which can explain life or make it bearable. To be able to say, I was dead, now I am alive; I was in error and a lost soul, now I know the truth and feel myself God's child,—brushing aside all our pride and sophistications, is not this the primal need of the human heart? We may admit the danger of complacency and dogmatism that creep into the love of positive statements; but are these evils greater than the weaknesses, the uncertain aim and nerveless will, that are found so often in other forms of faith, supposedly based in the clearest reason and the soundest scholarship?

"It is positive religious belief the world hungers for, and a positive if not final statement of the same. Christian Science will do something if it teaches us to take less counsel of our fears and more of our natural longings and hopes in the solution of the problems of faith and duty, if it helps convert a professed belief in God into a practical working motive in life."

Brother Jasper's "Sun-Do-Move" Sermon.—The recent death of the Rev. John Jasper, the eccentric colored minister, calls to mind the famous sermon which he delivered in hundreds of pulpits and lecture-halls North and South. This sermon was first preached twenty years ago to prove that modern astronomy is all wrong, and that the Ptolemaic, non-heliocentric hypothesis is the correct one, altho Brother Jasper did not state it in just these terms. The sermon, now given by *Town and Country*, is based on the text, "The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his name" (Exodus xv. 3). Beginning with Genesis, and going through to Revelations, he collected an array of testimony formidable enough to decide decisively any ordinary question of pure theology according to the received methods of Scriptural exegesis. He felt absolutely sure that the Bible was correct in saying that the sun moved round the earth, and that the latter is not a ball. His peroration was as follows:

THE LATE REV. JOHN JASPER.
Courtesy of *Frank Leslie's Monthly*.

"Bredren, ef de Bible say de sun rise an' set, den it do rise an' set! An' how ken it rise an' set ef hit don' move? In de tenth chapter o' de book o' Joshwy, an' de twelf, thirteenth, an' fo'teenth verses, dar is proof strong ernuff fer us all. De Lawd said, 'Sun, stand thou still on Gideon, and thou moon in the valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still and the moon stayed until the people avenged themselves upon their enemies. And there was no day like that before it or after it.'

"Bredren, ef de sun stood still once when 'twas a-movin' an' den stahted to movin' ergin, hit is a-movin' now! Dey say de earth is roun': Dat ain't so, bredren; it can't be so, for de book o' Revelations, chapter vii., verse 1, read: 'And I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth.' An' now, bredren an' sisters, we is livin' on a fo'-cornered earth; an' ef de earth is got fo' corners, how in de name o' Gawd ken it be roun'? Ef de worl' is roun' an' turn over ev'y night, how we hol' on? Is we got claws on our feet like woodpeckers."

A CRITICISM OF TOLSTOY BY AN ETHICAL CULTURIST.

IN the summary which we gave of Dr. Andrew D. White's recent article on Tolstoy in *McClure's*, reference was made to the Count's high opinion of the great work being accomplished in New York by Dr. Felix Adler and the Society for Ethical Culture. This appreciation of Count Tolstoy's calls forth in turn a kindly but highly discriminating analysis of Tolstoy in *The Ethical Record*, the official organ of the Ethical Society. The writer, Mr. Percival Chubb, one of the leaders of the movement, says:

"We might take Count Tolstoy himself as a good illustration of our contention that the primacy belongs to the moral rather than to the intellectual or philosophical side of man's nature. We are many of us deeply indebted to Tolstoy. He is one of the penetrating voices of our time, and is perhaps the greatest living force in Occidental culture and religion. His is a presence that disturbs the peace of Christendom. From him in his rural retirement and quiet life of labor among the peasantry of Russia there comes a challenge and arraignment of Christendom in the name of that Christ whom, with child-like innocence of eye, he has rediscovered behind the veil of churchly obscurantism; and Christendom quails before the challenge.

"Now what is the source of this puissant influence of his? Has he clarified or enlarged our view of the world? On the contrary. To many of us his view of things is most unsatisfactory. His anarchism and asceticism, his static, unhistoric reading of social facts are to us false, misleading, mischievous. He has affected us in spite of these drawbacks. And he has done so because he

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has quickened and fed the two emotions without which a man walks to his own spiritual grave: sincerity and sympathy. A sincerity, a naive sense of reality, and an eye for unreality as keen as Ibsen's without Ibsen's acidity; a sympathy, tender yet robust, for his human brothers, however debased, that is movingly Christ-like—these are his most precious gifts to us and to our age. From our point of view it is these among other fundamental virtues of character—a certain initial rectitude and nobility of disposition—that are the determining and conditioning elements of man's religion. We hold with Ruskin that it matters little how a man may reason if every idea with which he begins is foul or false; and that reasoning is often poisoned at the source because it revolves around some false notion, some impure desire of the heart, with which a man is resolved that his logic shall comply.

"It is from something like this point of view that we must interpret Tolstoy's assertion that science and philosophy are not essential to religion. He says that 'neither philosophy nor science can institute man's relation to the universe,' and that a man need acquire neither in order to understand religion. Again he says that 'the relation of man to the universe is defined, not by the intellect alone, but by his sensitive perception aided by all his spiritual powers.' That is why an illiterate sectarian peasant, for whom Copernicus and Darwin have lived in vain, 'achieves the same conception of life as was accomplished by the greatest sages of the world—Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius, Seneca—namely, the consciousness of man's being as the instrument of the will of God, the Son of God.'"

Tolstoy's leading doctrine, that the Christian or divine type of religion exacts man's self-renunciation and his submission to a Supreme Will on which he depends, is based, as he says, on the "acknowledgment by man that the meaning of life is not to be found in the attainment of his own individual aim, nor in the attainment of that of any association of individuals, but solely in serving the Supreme Will which has produced man and the entire universe, not for the aims of man, but of the superior Will which has produced him." From this proceeds a morality which "explains the dependence of man on the Supreme Will, and determines the demands of this will, which are the renunciation of the individual will and of the welfare, not only of the individual but of the family, society, and state, in the name of the fulfilment of the will of Him who sent us into life and made it known to us through our conscience," or, as he says elsewhere, "through the reason and love with which we are equipped." Surely we have here, says Mr. Chubb, the very negative of all morality; for in the interest of what "higher good" does the Supreme Will demand of a man that he shall renounce the welfare not only of individuals but of the family, society, the state? Says Mr. Chubb:

"Shall we embrace a good which we can not define by reason and approve of by love as the good of man? There is no such thing as a superhuman good for man. The Supreme Will to which Tolstoy appeals gives its arbitrary commands just as the Autocrat of all the Russias might enforce his ukases, regardless of their human consequences. This Supreme Will, in short, is magnificently superior to morality; and in obeying it we also rise superior to morality—to all forms of human welfare. Hence we are called upon to put slight value upon the holiest of human ties—family, neighbors, country. Tolstoy fails, in short, to see that through these, in ever-broadening circles of love and reason, the divine power that makes for righteousness reveals itself.

"Much more might be said to amplify our contention. But the sum of the matter is that Tolstoy sees no meaning in history, and no principle of progress in the domain of religion and morals. His creed is therefore stationary, inflexible, dogmatic. 'Back to Christ' is his cry; and it is a cry of despair; for it implies that man has been living in vain these nineteen hundred years, and that what we call civilization is a vast excrescence upon time. And so we are asked to return, as Tolstoy himself has practically returned, to a peasant type of life, based on a peasant religion—the religion of 'the Good Shepherd'—a religion that would divorce us from the state and from the results of man's patient striving in science and invention, and political organization. We are persuaded that there is a more excellent way. It is a more difficult way: but all those may walk hopefully therein whose hearts beat true, and whose wills are dauntless."

NEW HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS OF ECCLESIASTICUS.

THE Book of Ecclesiasticus or Wisdom of Ben Sira (a distinct book from both "Ecclesiastes" and "The Book of Wisdom") has been one of the minor centers of conflict among modern Biblical critics. It was long supposed to have been originally written in Greek by an Alexandrian Jew, and, like the other books of the so-called "Apocrypha," has been accepted as a canonical book of the Old Testament by the historical Christian churches of the East and West ever since there has been a canon—that is, by all of Christendom up to the sixteenth century, and by three-fourths of Christendom since that time. Wholly apart from the question of its canonicity, however, is that of the language in which it was originally written. A few years ago two Hebrew manuscripts of Ecclesiasticus, commonly referred to as "A" and "B," were discovered. Various theories were held by scholars as to these. Professor Margoliouth, the conservative Old-Testament scholar of Oxford, who is more celebrated for his linguistic attainments than for his critical judgment, held that the supposed original Hebrew text of the book had been lost, and that these texts "A" and "B" represent merely an attempt by "some Persian Jew of about the eleventh century [B.C.]" to retranslate, into the original Hebrew of Ben Sira, the Greek or Syriac versions of the book which existed in the translator's own time. On the other hand, the Hebrew scholars of Cambridge and almost all the Continental scholars held that the newly found Hebrew texts were a recension of an original text.

Now the Clarendon Press has published facsimiles of all the known fragments of manuscripts of the Hebrew versions of Ecclesiasticus, including not only "A" and "B" but also two additional ones designated "C" and "D." Mr. Joseph Offord, member of the Society of Biblical Archeology, writing in *Biblia* (June), is convinced that a comparison of these new texts will serve to prove the existence of a Hebrew original, a fact which has an interesting bearing on the dates of other books of Hebrew literature. He says:

"Small in quantity as these five additional pages are, yet they apparently suffice to settle finally the originality of the Hebrew of Ben Sira which the four manuscripts present, as against the retranslation theory. . . . Thanks to these four Hebrew texts doing so, we can now assert that they are certainly variants of an Hebrew archetype, and of it probably the nearest type is the verses of D; also that its text as illustrated also by that of C, approximates nearest to the Hebrew original which formed the basis of the Greek and Syriac renderings. No other conclusion, then, is possible than that we have here four manuscripts of the Hebrew of Ecclesiasticus as known from the seventh to the tenth century [B.C.], and not a retranslation of the eleventh century; but how far they represent the original Hebrew, only further study can say. . . . . .

"The tendency of the new discovery is therefore certainly to substantiate the views of those scholars who incline to assign a higher antiquity to the composition of the Old-Testament books than the dates the 'Higher Criticism' have recently assumed."

AMONG the less known but most interesting and suggestive of all John Fiske's works is a volume of essays called "The Unseen World." The title-paper is an extended analysis of the primary concepts of existence, in the course of which, after taking up one by one the great array of philosophers who from Plato's day and before have held the idealistic hypothesis, he states his own acceptance of that view, altho not of its extreme statement as seen in the writing of Berkeley. In another essay on "The Christ of History," Professor Fiske accepts the main results of the investigations of Strauss, Bauer, and the Tübingen school of New-Testament criticism. His essay on Greek democracy in the age of Pericles in this volume is one of the most vivid and striking of his shorter essays.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

PLOTS AGAINST THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

THE journals of Rome, Vienna, and Berlin continue to devote considerable space to the Triple Alliance and its stability. Comment is at present chiefly directed to the relation of Albania to Italy and Austria, and to what is called the Ugron-Rimler plot in Hungary. Albania, which is a vilayet of the Turkish empire, situated on the Adriatic Sea immediately south of Montenegro, is coveted by both Austria and Italy, chiefly for trade reasons. Many Austrians and Italians live in the province and there is a large Albanian population in Italy. A violent anti-Turkish agitation in Albania is causing considerable anxiety in Vienna, for, as Count Goluchowski, the Austrian Foreign Minister, recently pointed out, any disturbance of the *status quo* in the Balkans is dreaded by the Austrian Government. The Albanians in Italy have an organ, the *Nazione Albanese*, which is the center of a propaganda for Albanian autonomy. Its motto is "Albania for the Albanians and vigorous resistance to all foreign interference." Both the Austrian and Italian prime ministers have, in recent speeches, disclaimed any territorial designs on Albania, altho in the parliament of each country attacks have been made on the good faith of the other in regard to the province.

The *Osservatore Romano* and the *Tribuna*, of Rome, regard the Albanian question as of primary importance in Austro-Italian relations, and the *Agencia Libera*, also of Rome, declares that the Italian Government has made the recognition by the Triple Alliance of Albania's right to autonomy one of the conditions of her renewal of the Dreibund. The *Fremdenblatt* (Vienna) says that the Albanian question is an artificial one, and should be "damped down," in the interest of the two nations and the rest of Europe. The *Neue Freie Presse* (Vienna) and the *Pester Lloyd* (Budapest) also declare that there is nothing in the agitation, and the latter journal claims that "the voice of Montenegrin ambition can be heard through the Italian chorus."

The Ugron-Rimler incident is regarded in Berlin as a Franco-Hungarian plot to disrupt the Triple Alliance and throw Austria into the arms of the Dual Alliance. M. Ugron is the leader of a small independent faction in the Hungarian Chamber, and has attracted attention by his bitter attacks on Germany. Dr. Rimler, his colleague—who, according to the *Neues Tageblatt* (Vienna), was formerly a secretary in the Vienna Foreign Office—recently interviewed M. Delcassé, French Foreign Minister in Paris. There is in Hungary, Dr. Rimler declared to M. Delcassé, a strong anti-German feeling, and, at the same time, a strong attraction toward Russia. While the renewal by Austria of the Triple Alliance is being discussed, would it not be a wise move on the part of France, Dr. Rimler is reported as asking, to take means to increase and direct this pro-Russian feeling? He suggested the establishment of a journal and a bank in Budapest, both to be subsidized by France, and both to be used as propaganda toward "saving Hungary directly and indirectly from the Triple Alliance." The French minister, however, was wary and gave but little encouragement to the scheme. Austrian journals pooh-pooh the incident, but it appears to be taken quite seriously in Berlin, where it is regarded as an effort on the part of the anti-German Ultramontane party to disrupt the Triple Alliance. The *Vossische Zeitung* says:

"The Ugron incident is a sort of revelation for the German public, on which it must make a deep and lasting impression. This single thread of Ultramontane machinations spun against Germany in Hungary has been disclosed by mere chance, and it remains a question how many other threads have been spun in the strongholds of Austro-Hungarian Clericalism, in order to be finally woven together into a rope for Germany and the Triple Alliance. The more power Clericalism obtains in Austria-Hungary, the more urgent the need for Germany to be on her guard and to prepare for unsatisfactory contingencies."

The *Kölnische Zeitung*, the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, and the *Kreuz-Zeitung* (Berlin) express similar sentiments.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WHY FRANCE AND ENGLAND SHOULD BE FRIENDS.

EVER since the Fashoda incident, Anglo-French relations and the possibility of a war between the two countries have formed a topic of much discussion in the press of France and England. The conditions necessary for peace are discussed at length (in *The Fortnightly Review*, London) by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the well-known French diplomat. France and England, he declares, are exposed at any moment to direct or indirect collision, which, however, can come from only two sources: the colonial expansion of France and the Franco-Russian alliance. The English regard the colonization policy of France with very thinly disguised contempt. It is clear, the Baron admits, that the condition of French colonies will not bear comparison with that of England's colonial possessions. He does not attempt to explain the causes of this, but declares that English people generally ridicule France's colonial policy. If they stopped at ridicule, he believes no trouble would arise; but they go further:

"England, they consider, brings civilization to native races in the highest form that exists, while other nations, more especially France, are powerless to build up anything abroad on a solid, prosperous, and moral foundation. . . . Given the feelings which the present state of the French colonies inspires in the breasts of Englishmen, it is only natural that they should turn toward these colonies with a desire to annex them. When you are profoundly convinced, not only that your neighbor does not know in the least what to do with a piece of territory, while you could make it pay very well yourself, but that, further, in annexing the territory you would be insuring the happiness of everybody who lives in it, you are gone some way toward the action by which you attempt annexation."

If peace is to be maintained, says the Baron, "it is for the English Government, above all for public opinion, to look to it that the French colonial empire shall be respected by the English, not only in action but in thought: that they shall not be led away to regard it as their natural prey, destined by Providence to fall into British hands." As for the Franco-Russian alliance, the writer doubts whether, in view of recent developments in the Far East, it would be concluded now, did it not already exist. As English and Russian interests so often clash, Russia's ally may be drawn into the dispute. However, France can not repudiate her ally, and England should be careful. All will be well, he concludes, "if the English exercise perpetual self-restraint so that they may not be carried away by a disastrous cupidity."

Thomas Barclay, writing in the same issue of *The Fortnightly*, urges the arrangement of a general treaty of arbitration between the two countries. In all questions except that of Egypt, which he assumes to be now settled by the logic of circumstances, the points at issue are and are likely to be in matters of trade, and these, he points out, can be settled by arbitration.

Havelock Ellis, the English political and philosophical writer, believes that Englishmen have never fully understood or appreciated France and her contributions to civilization. In *The Contemporary Review* (London) he tries to prove that it is a matter of two differing civilizations. The common conception of France as a "decadent Latin nation" is entirely erroneous, he asserts. France is really neither Latin nor decadent. He adduces ethnological and other scientific proof to show that there is less Latin blood in France than in England. France, however, he says, is truly Latin in the sense that French civilization is Latin.

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"France interprets for us, at a distance, it is true, the genius of Greece and Rome, while France also furnishes a modern civilization which is truly classic in type. . . . The philosophic tendency, the willingness shown even by a people so tenacious of their traditions to overturn those traditions, as at the great Revolution, in obedience to what seemed the higher claims of reason and a wider order; this, together with that gaiety which can condense the most poignant experiences of life into a smile or an epigram, this reasonableness and this gaiety are not only two aspects of the same attitude toward life, but they are both the outcome of a special civilization demanding the subordination of the personal claims of the individual. French gaiety has often been the object of foreign contempt, and no doubt in its lower manifestations it can be as plebeian as the gaiety of any other nation; but in its finer manifestations it is, when rightly understood, of the very essence of French civilization, the expression of that sense of detachment, of universal and impersonal reason, which is never very far from any Frenchman. It is the expression of the man who heroically rises above his own misfortunes to a vision of them 'under the species of eternity'; thus it is—as has been said by the wisest of young French philosophers, himself meeting courageously an early death—a less theatrical rendering of the ancient *non dolet*. It is not less heroic because it manifests itself, as all fine civilization must, in the pettiest details of daily life. I have noticed a Frenchman hastening to an omnibus, to find every place occupied, and lifting his hat turn away with a good-humored 'Bon voyage!' Not so our own countryman. The Englishman is so convinced that he is himself the end to which the whole creation moves that any sudden shock to this conviction deprives him momentarily of any impulse of courtesy or humanity; the Frenchman instinctively conquers his own disappointment, to realize the impersonal fact that if he has lost others have won."

The traditions of such a civilization as France has taken from the classic nations and elaborated by her own philosophic spirit, appeal to Mr. Ellis as "inevitably making for sociability and urbanity." Therefore, he holds, France furnishes the model for the civilization of our day which is so largely urban in its tendencies.

"In our insular arrogance we speak of 'Latin decadence' as compared with our own fruitful energy in money-making; but after all we have to live, and money-making is at best only one of the more or less necessary conditions of living. In this matter our acts are more eloquent than our words. Thirty, even twenty, years ago, London was a hideous desert, a nightmare city, more lacking in the instincts and appliances of human living than remote Moscow. Since then—however great the progress yet to make, and however awkward, partial and blundering the progress already made—London has been transformed. Our streets, our parks, our restaurants, our trams and omnibuses, our public conveniences, our Sunday and evening open-air concerts, have all undergone an almost startling development which has brought them considerably nearer both to the ideals and the practises of French civilization. . . . It must not be supposed that this progress is largely or mainly a conscious imitation of Paris or any other continental city. It is the result of the fact that French civilization is in its chief lines the inevitable civilization of an urban population, and that as any urban civilization develops it necessarily takes on, whether consciously or unconsciously, the essential qualities of French civilization."

In the *Nouvelle Revue* (Paris), M. Louis Jadot reviews the history of Anglo-French relations from 1837 to the present. He finds that nowhere are there any real causes for hostility between the two peoples, and he sees no prospect of a serious disagreement. M. Eugène Etiènne, formerly under-secretary of the French colonial office, insists that England should be grateful to France for her work of exploration and colonization in Africa. In a recent interview, reported in the *Gironde*, of Bordeaux, he declared that Frenchmen have brought peace, order, and progress to the "hinterlands" of almost every British African possession, thus enabling England to carry on her civilizing work to much greater advantage. Is it not helpful to England, he asks, when her colonists and administrators find themselves surrounded by the work of French pioneers rather than the wild wastes of savages?—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

ARE THE GIBRALTAR DEFENSES INADEQUATE?

RECENT debates in the British House of Commons upon the question of completing Great Britain's naval works at Gibraltar and strengthening her fleet in the Mediterranean, together with France's alleged designs on Morocco, have excited a good deal of discussion in the continental press, particularly the press of Spain and France, upon the general naval situation in the Mediterranean. Mr. Gibson Bowles, M.P., has published a pamphlet on the subject of the docks of Gibraltar, in which he charges the British Government with "ignoring completely the potentialities of modern guns under the geographical conditions that obtain in the neighborhood of the Rock." Gibraltar, he declares, is vulnerable to modern artillery from its land side, and "its docks could be rendered useless in a few hours under a heavy fire." As the only other adequate docks Great Britain now has in the Mediterranean—those at Malta—are already overtaxed, the question of the Gibraltar defenses is of grave importance. Spanish newspaper comment would indicate that popular opinion in Spain is very apprehensive lest Great Britain is contemplating aggressive action in the Western Mediterranean. Designs for territorial extension by France are also feared. The speeches in the British Commons were reported in full in the Spanish papers, and several secret sessions of the cabinet are said to have considered the question of Gibraltar. The *Epoca* (Madrid), the chief conservative organ, points out that Spain has more to fear from France than from England. This journal publishes a long article on Hispano-British relations, by Juan Pérez de Guzmán, one of the best known of the Spanish writers on politics and economics. Señor Guzmán declares that if Gibraltar is the key to the Mediterranean, Spain is the door. The possession and proper use of Gibraltar will decide the question of the future of Morocco, and the final disposition of this ancient empire of the Moors will settle the problem which now so deeply concerns Spain, France, England, Italy, and Germany—the equilibrium of the Mediterranean. Señor Guzmán fears France and declares that Spain had better make friends with England. An alliance with Spain, he says, would be much more valuable to England in the Mediterranean than an alliance with Italy could ever be. Speaking of the "danger from France" and Spain's impotence to meet it alone, he writes:

"The problem presented by the aggressive designs of France is not one that will be solved by shock of arms, either on the frontiers of Morocco or in the waters of the Mediterranean. It can never, perhaps, be a question of war. It will be a slow conquest by annexation and absorption. The debates in the British House of Commons have brought again before the visions of Spain the perils which confront our people and race, especially as, since the disastrous war with the United States and the loss of our colonies, we have been stripped of almost all our material and moral resources. . . . Alas, we have been completely and sadly isolated and compelled to live in a sort of helpless but unwilling dependence upon France, which does not respect us, but tries to use us for her own ends."

The only wise policy for Spain, declares the *Epoca* editorially, is one of strict neutrality, "a policy from which Spain should depart only against those who refuse to let her remain neutral." The *Liberal* (a Republican organ) says it does not apprehend aggression by England, but, in view of France's Moroccan policy, "which clashes with the rights and interests of Spain," the Madrid Government should dispel the idea "gaining ground all over Europe" that Spain has been drawn into the sphere of action of France. The *Imparcial* recommends self-possession, and

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urges Spain not to be enticed into alliances, at any rate not into any anti-English ones, till she is sure of not falling into the maw of France. The *Heraldo*, the *Globo*, and the *Correspondencia* also recommend caution and call for increased military defenses. Charles Malo, the French political writer, discusses the whole question of Gibraltar in the *Journal des Débats* (Paris). Continental Europe, he says, can well appreciate how galling it is for Spaniards to see the hated foreigner in possession of their strongest natural defense. Frenchmen especially, who remember how many years Calais was in the hands of the English, can appreciate this. This writer freely admits the importance of Gibraltar in the strategic balance of the Mediterranean. England must hold it, he says, if she is to continue to dominate the Suez Canal and, through this waterway, the Near East. But the world, he concludes, has been hypnotized by the English into considering this ancient fortress as absolutely invulnerable, "a natural defense, pierced by embrasures from which cannon frown, and so steep as to be accessible only to real Englishmen and—monkeys." If war should break out, he concludes, a different story might soon be told about the impregnability of Gibraltar. Robert de Caix, another well-known French political writer, has an article on England's interest in the Moroccan question, in *Questions Diplomatiques et Colonial* (Paris), the organ of the French Foreign Office. He advocates the neutralization of the Straits of Gibraltar, and believes that England could be persuaded to consent to such neutralization. France, he says, has almost convinced Italy that, in opening the door of Morocco, she is not closing the latter's way to Tripoli. When the republic has "completed" Algeria, she will come to an understanding with Germany as to naval stations. There remains only England, and, if France consents to the British régime in Egypt, why should not England consent to neutralize the straits?

Spain is too weak to oppose England, declares the *Independance Belge* (Brussels), and England is too busy in South Africa to run the risk of being embroiled elsewhere. Matters will, therefore, remain as they are, at least for the present.

The Italian papers watch the question closely and report carefully the news of London and Madrid; but, as the *Osservatore Romano* (Rome) puts it, matters have not yet reached an acute stage.

The British press apparently looks upon the discussion as much ado about nothing. The only question at stake, says *The Spectator* (London), is that of the continued neutrality of Spain. The way this can be guaranteed forever is for the British to find out what are the aspirations of Spain in the Western Mediterranean, and then do their best to satisfy these aspirations. What Spain desires above all things is not to be ousted from Morocco. Spain looks to some day acquiring Tetuan and the whole of the blunt-nosed peninsula which juts out into the Straits, and includes Tangier and Cape Spartel. Why should England not make a treaty with Spain pledging support to her claim to this territory in the event of a break-up of the Shereefian empire, and letting France understand that there would be no interference with any action she might take in regard to the rest of Morocco?

The St. James's Gazette (London) declares that, as Great Britain's vital interest in the Mediterranean is based on the Suez Canal, everything should be done looking toward that waterway. *The Times* strongly advocates an increase in the British Mediterranean fleet.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

The Survival of the Maori.—The census recently taken in New Zealand shows that the Maori population of that colony is increasing in number, the figures in 1901 being 42,850, as compared with 39,623 in 1896, and lesser numbers in preceding years. Commenting on this fact, which has excited considerable interest throughout Australasia, the Melbourne *Argus* remarks:

"The increase suggests a chance of permanent survival. . . . Think of the helplessness of all Pacific islanders against European microbes! We willingly spend enormous sums of money and endure a vexatious quarantine system to keep out smallpox and bubonic plague. The Pacific islanders have had no defense. Consumption, measles, influenza—to which we have become, by long acquaintance, in some degree immune or hardened—have devastated the islands. So the Maori suffered. His way of living, his contempt for sanitary usages and precautions, exactly suited our microbes. They attacked the tattooed warriors and vanquished them with appalling ease. They could not stand up against their invisible foes. The race seemed doomed to disappear, and the other race deplored the prospect. For tho the Maori in his primitive state was a savage, and given to eating as well as killing his enemy, he had some fine qualities. He had a gift of logic and another of poetic imagination; he was eloquent as well as brave; and his code of conduct was not without lines of nobility. He loved the soil on which his ancestors had fought and devoured one another, and he longed with a pathetic intensity that his people might always live. When the two races became reconciled, the white New Zealander also wished that his dusky countryman might be spared. He treated him handsomely. To the fullest extent possible he admitted him to the rights and privileges of citizenship. And the Maori responded to British kindness and justice. Only the microbes threatened his survival. Let us hope that the improvement disclosed by the census announces that the race is getting the upper hand in the struggle. The survival of the Maori will make picturesque history."

CUBA AND OUR FOREIGN CRITICS.

THE European press generally appears to regard Cuba as already *de facto* a part of the United States; but it continues to reproach us for what it calls our perfidy toward the Cubans. Despite the fact that Cuba has been promised and certainly has deserved independence, says the *Temps* (Paris), nothing is clearer to the rest of the world than that she will never get it. The *Temps* continues:

THE SITUATION.
After the Storm, Good Friends.
—*Discusion, Havana.*

"Ingenuously, cynically, the chivalrous liberators of but yesterday declare that what it was good to take it is good to hold. It is impossible to misunderstand their language, which, summed up, means that there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip, and that whether they like it or not, the Cubans will have to resign themselves to the situation: they have exchanged the yoke of Spain for the tutelage of the United States. . . . Such is the

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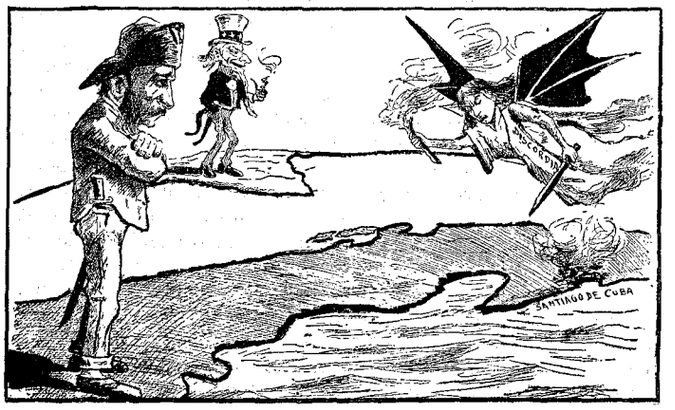
fate of these unfortunate islanders. They are not free, because it is to the interests of the United States to hold them in tutelage. They are not full members of the American Union, because it is to the interest of certain merchants and producers to set up a tariff barrier against their goods. Behold the outcome of the war of principle: instead of having brought about the emancipation of Cuba for the sake of a grand idea, Uncle Sam has realized a sordid profit, and acted all the way through in the 'spirit of lucre.'"

Uncle Sam is very clever, but the world understands him, declares the *Kreuz-Zeitung* (Berlin). The acceptance of the Platt amendment by the Cuban Constitutional Convention, it says,



UNCLE SAM CHUCKLES AT CUBAN DISORDERS.
—*Discusion, Havana.*

means the beginning of absolute control by the Americans. "Cuba Libre" is a dream which will never be realized, says the *Frankfurter Zeitung;* annexation is not far away. The Cubans would better give it up, declares the *Epoca* (Madrid); how can they expect to stand against the imperialistic spirit of the Yankees? The *Aftonbladet* (Stockholm), which follows closely American "colonial" affairs, argues in the same vein.

The *Discusion*, one of the most fearless and ably edited of the Havana journals, has been printing long editorials for the past year calling upon the United States to openly avow its intentions with regard to Cuba, so that the Cubans may know how to act. Annexation, it believes, is still some distance off, as the Southern States would object to any increase in the "negro belt." Cuba, it says, does not want annexation. She wants only to have her future definitely outlined. The economic question is the one pressing for immediate settlement. *La Discusion* continues:

"We know very well that the sugar interests of the United States are antagonistic to those of Cuba, that they will oppose our sugar producers because they have immense plants and capital involved. When, however, the great central Cuban railroad is completed, new enterprises will spring up and other new means of communication will be demanded. Soon something like an equilibrium will be established between the sugar and tobacco interests of Cuba and those of the United States, and commercial reciprocity will be recognized as the question to be settled. We set aside the annexation idea as one of no real pressing importance and of doubtful benefit."

Cuba may regard herself as absorbed, says *The Star* (Montreal), and probably for her good. The *Patrie* (Montreal), the leading organ of French opinion in Canada, declares that the "demon of imperialism is now leading American politics to disaster." It concludes by prophesying a collapse of American institutions, for, it quotes, "whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE relation of the railroads to famines in India is treated exhaustively by *The Friend of India* (Calcutta) in a recent issue. This journal blames the Indian Government for permitting the exportation of grain to such large extent. Something, it declares, should have been done to stop this. It says at the conclusion of a severe arraignment: "That a country the population of which are mainly dependent upon agriculture for their subsistence, which is even ordinarily liable to drought, and which can not import food except at famine prices, can economically or safely export its surplus production from year to year without restraint of any sort, is a proposition which seems to us, on the face of it, little less than insane."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CHINESE DISTURBANCE AS HENRY SAVAGE LANDOR SEES IT.

IN his published record, in two large volumes, of the recent events in China, Mr. A. Henry Savage Landor lays at the door of Buddhist monks the responsibility for the uprising and the disaster and bloodshed which followed. He writes:

"Knowing what I do of Buddhist monks and their exclusiveness, their violent hatred for all and everything foreign—of which we have an instance in the Tibetan Lamas in their purely Buddhist country, the only land that has succeeded to this day in remaining forbidden to all strangers—I maintain that, no matter what other theories are brought forward regarding the present trouble in China, it can not be better defined than as a fanatical movement, mixed to a certain extent with Shamonism. The grasping dealings of European nations have also, no doubt, contributed indirectly to bring on a crisis which might otherwise have been delayed indefinitely. The original cause, however, is that given above. The fire, half smothered, was there all the time, and, had it not flared up at the instigation of foreign influence, would at some later day have flared up of its own accord, and very likely with consequences more terrible to Europeans. . . . Moreover, the usual malicious stories were circulated in Boxers' placards [Mr. Landor says that nearly all the so-called Boxers are Buddhists] of foreigners kidnaping children to turn them into soup or pound them into jelly, which, as a medicine, became endowed, after it had undergone the further process of drying in the sun, with marvelous strengthening qualities. Foreign doctors were also accused of plucking out the eyes of people unawares. Foreign devils, it was declared, then ground these eyes into dust and used them in their occult arts. Most of these absurd rumors were probably originated by natives who had seen surgical operations performed in mission hospitals. The kidnaping of children was invariably the first accusation brought against foreigners, and whenever riots occurred against 'white devils,' the instigators maliciously did away with a number of little unfortunates, and then held foreigners responsible for their disappearance. The Buddhist monks, however, in the Boxer movement, had devised a slight variation in this detail. They were very adept at hypnotism, and availed themselves of this power to impress the masses. They hypnotized young boys, and then at night left them in a state of catalepsy in some thoroughfare. When a sufficient crowd had collected around these insensible creatures, the monks duly appeared and pointed out 'the actual proof of the evil doings of foreigners.' The crowd having been worked into a state of frenzy, the boy, apparently dead, would be restored to life by the monks (they said 'resuscitated'), and the bystanders would be thus further convinced that, whatever deviltry foreigners might perpetuate, Buddhist monks had always the power to make things good. It was this simple hypnotic expedient, carried on on a large scale, that induced Boxers to fling themselves in the field against modern rifles, under the belief that the Buddhist monks had made them bullet-proof. . . . The most active leader, after Prince Tuan, was a man of great influence, energy, and ability, a native Buddhist of Shensi, by name Li Lai Chung. His lieutenants and agents were the Buddhist monks, the Lamas, a lazy class of parasites, criminals who, by hiding under the cloak of religion, escaped from the claws of justice, and who were the riff-raff of the country. . . . It was thus that this religious and political movement for the extermination of foreigners and their influence assumed such alarming proportions. No doubt when that nest of immorality and disgraceful corruption, the Buddhist monks, has been wiped out, not only in China, but in all Asia, civilization will have no difficulty in penetrating to the remotest nooks of that immense continent, and peace will be forever assured."

Some of the occurrences related by Mr. Landor are almost too ghastly to be put in print. The shortcomings and peccadilloes of the soldiers of the Athis, according to him, are trivial in comparison with the Boxer atrocities. Even the Russian soldiers, according to Mr. Landor, are far less black than they have been painted. We quote again:

"The accounts of the looting published in England and

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America were not accurate, and seemed to be mostly written by persons who had some ulterior motive in showing the soldiers of some one nation or the other at their worst. The Russian, the British, the American, the Japanese, the French, all looted alike. They one and all were looters of the very first water. I say it and I maintain it. But, on the other hand, I can not see that in this particular case of the Chinese war looting was a criminal offense. On the contrary, it was the only way by which the natives could be punished for their outrages on our men, women, and children; and, degrading as it may seem to those who had no chance of taking part in it, there is no doubt that the only portion of the war which will cause the Chinese some future reflection will be the burning and looting of Tien-Tsin. Personally, a study of the looters was extremely interesting, and afforded me more pleasure than anything I could have carried away. It brought out the characteristics of each nationality and of each individual in a most extraordinary manner. Let us take, for instance, the British Tommy and the bluejacket. The first thing they did on entering the city was to start on a wild chase after fowls and ducks in the back yards and side lanes. This done, and the prospect of chicken for supper assured, Tommy Atkins laid his hands principally on embroidered silk gowns and articles of jewelry. 'My! won't my girl be happy when she sees all this!' was the very first thought of Tommy and Jack about the loot. 'She'll know, right enough, what to do with it all,' and the pockets of Tommy and Jack were soon stuffed to bursting with silver-gilt combs, small earrings, hairpins, elaborate ornaments for the hair, and silver charms of all kinds and sizes, of which Chinese chests of drawers were brimful. . . . One could almost safely say that 75 per cent. of the looting done by individual soldiers was not done for the sake of lucre, but merely to obtain mementos. If one happened to admire any particular article in the bundle of a soldier, he usually begged you to accept it as a present. Several times I have seen payment refused for curios in the possession of soldiers. The Japanese soldier in many respects resembled the British, but was more reserved and less anxious to be everybody's friend. The innocent and frank simplicity of the Briton was replaced in the Oriental by a more graceful, yet a stolid and dignified demeanor. But at heart both were alike, both daredevils, yet gentle enough if treated the right way. The point where a marked difference lay between the two was in the true and keen artistic sense of the beautiful inborn in the sons of the Mikado's empire, and altogether absent in the British Tommy. All that was ancient, refined in line and taste, or pleasing to the eye in color, had for a Japanese more fascination than anything of ten times its intrinsic value. In other words, an old cup, a bowl, a rolled-up painting yellow with age, a scroll done with a dash of the brush, offered more temptation to the Japanese than a costly roll of silk, for which he would not seem to care at all. I went into a house which had been entered by a number of Japanese privates. They had found a cabinet of old china, and each soldier was revolving in his supple fingers a cup or a vase or dish, and carefully examining the design. '*Kekko reh!* How lovely!' exclaimed one soldier, looking into the work with the eye of a connoisseur. '*Sajo deska. Taihen joso!* Yes, indeed. First-rate!' announced his neighbor, drawing in his breath in sign of admiration, while he tried to decipher the mark on the bottom of each cup. Such was their admiration for the wares they had handled that, instead of smashing them, as less artistic troops did those objects that could not be carried away, these Japanese soldiers carefully replaced each article on its shelf. . . . I have seen it reported in American papers that the American soldiers in China were the only ones who did absolutely no looting, and this was adduced as an example showing the superiority of the morals to those of soldiers belonging to other nationalities. In regard to looting, the American soldier was no worse, indeed, but decidedly no better, than any other soldier present, nor was there any reason why he should have been. Possibly he lacked some of the feeling and artistic taste to be found in some of the other nationalities, and as a rule he displayed much determined business capacity. He does not particularly care for artistic embroideries, nor for rare bronzes and chinaware, nor can he understand why anybody else does. He will pick up a costly vase which has been preserved for centuries in the house of a high official, and to save himself the trouble of putting it gently down in the place from which it came will drop it on the floor. The visit of the American soldiers had about the same result on the interior of a Chinaman's house as a severe shock of earthquake. The contempt of the American soldier for art has a redeeming point. His dry, if somewhat coarse, sense of humor, his extraordinary remarks on the things he touched and saw, and his composite oaths, in which no nation in the world except the Chinese can rival or equal him, made him an amusing study. . . . From my own observation I can speak highly of the American as a soldier. He generally impressed one, nevertheless, as being a person disappointed in life and always on the lookout for a fortune. When he talked, money was his only topic, and when he could not talk of money he kept silent. All that he looked for in the houses of rich 'Chinos,' as he conveniently called the Chinese, was gold bar, or silver. If he could not get gold or silver he preferred to have nothing, but he looked and looked until he generally found what he wanted. . . . The American soldier, when acclimatized, became extremely popular with all the other nations, and it was pleasant to see him chum, particularly with the British Tommy. He was generous in his dealings with other soldiers, and when he got to know the people was quite affable and had a pleasant word for everybody. . . . A contrast to the business capabilities of the American soldier, and the enterprise of the British and Japanese in the appropriation of other people's goods, was furnished by the apparent reluctance of the French to take any article of value. They occasionally selected some small trifle in sort of half-apologetic way, and their taste seemed to run particularly toward valueless old clothing which they evidently proposed to adapt to their own wear. Cheap Chinese cotton pajamas were carried away in preference to more precious fabrics, while eatables of all kinds, and tobacco, were in great demand. . . . . ."

Most of the Russian soldiers, says Mr. Landor, were from Siberia, and they were more brusk than those of the other countries; but the accounts of their barbarities are simply ludicrous, "and it is astounding to find so many people who believe them." We quote again:

"Many ridiculous stories have been spread in England and America of the Russian soldier. He is accused of having murdered women and children wholesale, after committing fearful acts of barbarity; and one hears it stated in all seriousness that hundreds of Chinese girls, of the best families, jumped into wells or leaped, at his approach, from a convenient city wall to escape dishonor. Newly born children were carried by the Russians stuck upon their bayonets on the march, and stories of this kind were repeated so often that simple folk at home began to take them all for gospel. I took particular pains to ascertain whether there was any truth whatever in these stories, and attempted to trace them to their source. Not only did I never see anything of the kind during the whole time I was with the Allies, but I never found any one who could prove these alleged barbarities to be true."

For the heroism and efficiency of some of the missionaries Mr. Landor has unstinted praise. But he says:

"There is plenty of good work to be done in China by sensible, practical missionaries, not so much in Christianizing the natives as in teaching them what is of most consequence in our civilizaiton—science, art, industries, medicine, and agriculture. . . . It has so far been the impression among supporters of missions in the East that, to spread the Gospel—and with it civilization—among the heathen, anybody is good enough. Thereupon, and presumably infatuated by the good they imagine they can accomplish, and partly attracted by the apparently handsome salary offered, a great number of unattractive young women with suburban ideas and education have found their way to the remotest corners of China. There, while faithfully preserving their characteristic Anglo-Saxon stride and stiffness of body, they parade about in ungracefully worn Chinese robes, quite as inappropriate and unbecoming to them as European clothes to Japanese or Chinese women. One would suppose it obvious that one should never begin serious work by turning the laugh on oneself, and it is with sorrow, even with pain, that one sees these poor girls of one's own nationality driven to make themselves ridiculous. . . . The question of general capacity is even more important. A brain sufficient for the reading of family prayers and the organization of village charity bazars, an intelligence not extending beyond the collection of unshapely woollen socks and Tam-o'-Shanter caps, whenever a calamity, no matter of what kind, afflicts the nation, may be an invaluable acquisition in local society, where socks and Tam-o'-Shanters and prayers have a recognized place. It is a different matter when this poor brain is sent out to distant lands to preach, instruct, improve, and civilize, to carry a great religion to men frequently of superior social standing, men who understand nature, know how to reason, and can read us as we would an open book."

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This is the last announcement of our Reduced Price Sale, so act quickly if you wish to take advantage of it.

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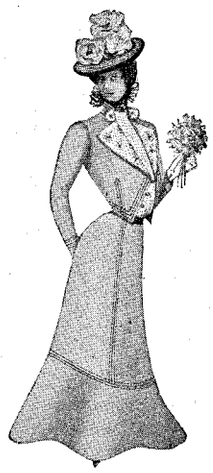

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Skirts, former price $5, reduced to $3 34.
$6 Skirts reduced to $4.
$7.50 Skirts reduced to $5.
$10 Skirts reduced to $6 67.
Rainy-Day Skirts, former price $6, reduced to $4.
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Send to-day for Catalogue, Samples and Reduced Price List; you will get them **free** by return mail. If a garment which we make should not please you, send it back. **We will refund your money.** Be sure to say you wish the **Summer Catalogue** and **Reduced Price Samples.**

Our new Fall and Winter Catalogue will be ready August 26th Every well-dressed women should have one; write now, and we will mail you a copy with a full line of new Fall samples as soon as it is issued. Be sure to say you wish **the new Fall Catalogue and Samples.**

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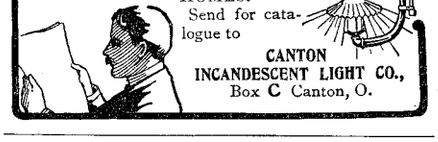

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CURRENT POETRY.

Ibsen's Autobiographical Poems.

Before Ibsen discarded the poetic form as being too artificial, he wrote many short poems which seem to reflect his early struggles with the hard problems of life. Some of these poems have just been reprinted in the London *Outlook*. The two that follow were written, according to a writer in *The Outlook*, at a time when the poet, "disappointed, disillusioned, and sometimes at the very brink of starvation, felt his soul rise up in revolt against the injustice of life and the world":

BIRD AND BIRDCATCHER.

Once an osier cage I made
When a boy, and quick as thought
In the fields a bird I caught,
Home with glee my prize conveyed.

Then I danced in grim delight
Round the cage, and with grimace,
Grin, and many an antic face
Drove the captive wild with fright.

Tired of all this noisy rout,
Different tortures next I tried,
Drew the cage's bars aside,
Let the trembling prisoner out.

See, he lifts his little head,
Life and freedom his again;
Flutters 'gainst the window-pane,
Drops upon the carpet, dead.

Thou'rt avenged, poor prisoner!
Captive now thy captor lies,
Close his dungeon barriers rise,
Scarce his limbs have strength to stir.

Him, too, an unsleeping eye
In his prison cell surveys,
And beneath that awful gaze
Reels his brain in agony.

Sometimes, as he thinks, the door
Opens wide and freedom calls.
Vain! with broken wings he falls
Bruised and bleeding on the floor.

THE POWER OF MEMORY.

You laugh when you see a tame bear dance;
Do you know how they teach the beast to prance?

In a brewer's cauldron they tie him tight,
And pile up the furnace and set it alight.

Then a barrel-organ they bring along,
And play to the bear "Love's old sweet song."

In a minute or so he begins to grill,
And he needs must dance, for he can't stand still.

So whenever he hears the tune that he knows,
A dancing devil flies into his toes.

I too in the cauldron once was bound,
And the furnace blazed, and the organ ground.

The flames of hell, I felt their power
And I carry the scars to this very hour.

And whenever thoughts of that time arise,
I feel the pang like a stab in the eyes.

And deep in my brain the iron goes,
And I needs must dance on my metric toes.

The Outlook writer says:

"Till he had reached a certain point in his career, Ibsen's Norwegian critics seemed, as some one has said, to be all Clement Scotts, so lively and inspired was their virulence, and it was not, it may be recalled, till 1870 that Ibsen received anything in the way of a public recognition from his fellow countrymen. In the course of an address he delivered to the body of students who fêted him he said: 'I have never made my private concerns of any kind the subject of a literary work. These private facts and feelings seemed to me in

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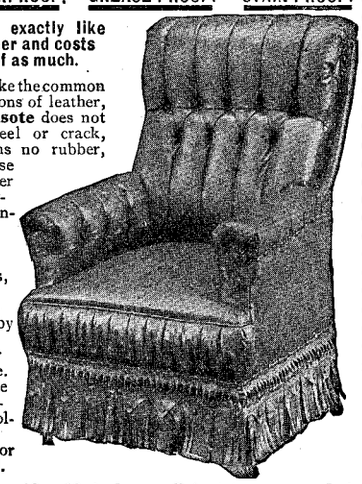

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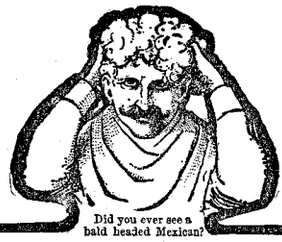
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earlier and harder times less important than I have since very often been able to understand. When the eiderduck's nest has been plundered once, twice, thrice it has been robbed of many illusions and great hopes in life.'"

The allusion to the eiderduck's nest is explained in the following lines:

THE EIDERDUCK.

The Eiderduck dwells in the Northman's land,
Where the gray waves wash the frozen strand.

She plucks the tender down from her breast,
To make a lining warm for her nest.

The fisher recks naught of her loving care,
He climbs to the nest and plucks it bare.

But what tho the fisher her store hath ta'en,
She strips her bosom yet once again.

Once more he robs her, and yet once more
She lines her nest from her bounteous store.

The third time, the last time her nest is laid bare,
Then she spreads her wings to the warm, Spring air.

With bleeding bosom she cleaves the night,
To the south, to the south, to the land of light!

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

His Opinion.—"Truth," said the aged historian, "is stranger than fiction, but it isn't anything like as lucrative as historical fiction!"—*Puck.*

A Premature Inquiry.—"He loves me—loves me not—he loves——" "Do you really b'lieve in it?" "Wait till I see how it comes out."—*Puck.*

The Wonders of Nature.—HUCKSLEY: "Why, I hardly knew you; you've got to look so round." TYNDLE: "The effect of square meals, my boy."—*Life.*

What Size?—TOUGH PARTY (in hardware store): "I wanter buy a dog muzzle, see?" CLERK (affably): "All right, sir. What size do you wear?"—*University of Chicago Weekly.*

Bought Medicine Himself.—"I've just been drugged and robbed," said he. "I think it is a shame!" The officer just yawned, and said, "What was the druggist's name?"—*Life.*

Why?—HE: "Er—er—I think your small brother a trifle impudent, you know. He called me an April fool once." SHE: "Why April, I wonder?"—*Tit-Bits.*

A Novelty.—MANAGER: "You say that your play is a novelty; how so?" PLAYWRIGHT: "The first act doesn't open with a servant dusting the furniture."—*Tit-Bits.*

The First Thing.—STERN PATER: "Johnny, what must you do first of all to have your sins forgiven?" JOHNNY: "Commit the sins."—*Yale Record.*

Behind the Scenes.—CIRCUS MANAGER: "What's all that row in the dressing-room?" ATTENDANT: "Oh, the man who walks barefoot on swords ran a splinter in his foot."—*Ohio State Journal.*

More than the Doctors Do.—WOMAN: "Me child is werry sick, sur, an' suppose your medicine don't help her, an' she dies?" PATENT MEDICINE PROPRIETOR (with great

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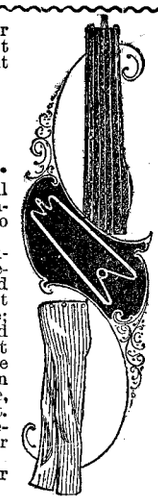

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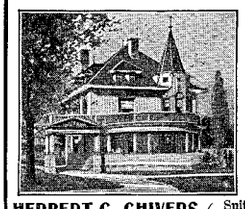

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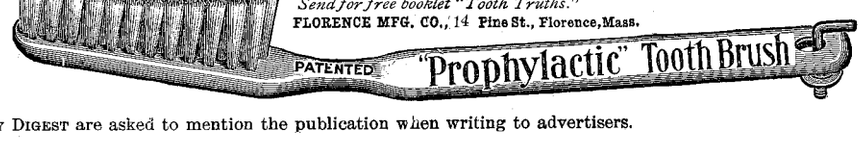

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suavity): "Your money will be refunded, madame."—*Harlem Life.*

Their Simple Monetary System.—CHICAGOAN (in London): "How much is this book?"

SHOP-LADY: "Three-an'-six, sir."

CHICAGOAN: "Well, that's nine, of course—nine what?"—*Puck.*

Rather Distant from Harlem.—MRS. B.: "Have you any near relatives, Norah?"

NORAH: "Only an aunt, mum; an' she isn't what you might call near, for it's in New Orleans she lives, mum."—*Harlem Life.*

For Riding.—LITTLE TIDDLE (nervously to livery stable-keeper): "Have you a very quiet horse? It must be like a lamb, neither kick nor shy, and not go too fast!"

LIVERY STABLE-KEEPER (eyeing him contemptuously): "Certainly, guv'nor. Which'll you have—a clothes-'orse or a rockin'-'orse?"—*Tit-Bits.*

He Played Him!—A cornet-player in a local orchestra (a native of the Fatherland) recently got into trouble innocently and unexpectedly.

"Let's have that over again," requested the conductor, surprised at hearing a note that was not on the score.

The note was sounded again. "What are you playing?" he asked at last.

"I am blaying vot vos on de paper," said the musician. "I blay vat is before me."

"Let's have a look."

The part was handed to the conductor.

"Why, you idiot," he roared, "can't you see that this is a dead fly?"

"I don't gare," was the reply, "he vas zere, and I blayed him."—*Tit-Bits.*

The Tariff on Skulls.—In the *Staats-Zeitung* there is an interesting account, taken from the *Tageblatt* of Lucerne, telling about an amusing tariff decision at a Swiss custom-house:

"A missionary, returning from South America, where he had made some scientific explorations, brought with him a box of skulls, found in ancient Patagonian graves. The custom-house inspectors classified these as 'bones of animals,' and demanded payment of duty at the rate of ten *rappen* (two cents) a pound.

"The missionary protested, saying that the bones were not animal's bones and dilated on their scientific importance.

"The inspectors then held a consultation, and the box was finally passed free and entered in the records as 'Native skulls, personal effects, already worn.'"—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Current Events.

Foreign.

CHINA.

July 22.—The Powers agree upon a plan for the payment of their indemnity claims against China, which involves the annual disbursement of 23,000,000 taels until the entire amount is paid.

July 27.—Mr. Rockhill confirms the report that negotiations in China will be concluded in two weeks, with a signatory protocol by all the Powers.

SOUTH AFRICA.

July 22.—Mrs. Kruger, wife of President Kruger, is buried at Pretoria.

July 23.—Boers capture and burn a train near

NEVER CLOSED.

The International Correspondence Schools, Scranton, Pa., call attention to the fact that instruction is given throughout the entire year, the vacations of the principals and instructors being arranged so that there is no interruption in the work of the schools. This affords an opportunity for mechanics and others who have a dull season during the summer to take up a course by mail and make good use of what would otherwise be waste time.

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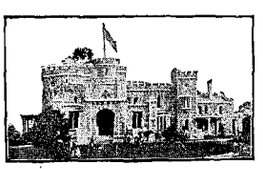

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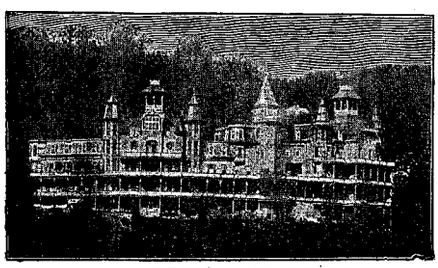

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Beaufort; British casualties, three killed and eighteen wounded.

July 27.—The Boers compel a British force to evacuate Bremersdorp, in Swaziland, with loss.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

July 22.—A conference to prevent the spread of tuberculosis is held in London.

July 23.—Russia demands of the Porte concessions in the way of coaling-stations.

July 24.—Lord Milner and Cecil Rhodes are sworn in as members of King Edward's Privy Council.

July 25.—The new Danish Cabinet favors the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States.

Jerman Riesco is proclaimed as President of Chile.

July 26.—The Tuberculosis Congress in London adjourns.

The new German tariff schedules are published in Berlin, showing largely increased duties, American products being especially affected.

King Edward presents medals to 3,000 yeomanry in London.

George Kennan, the American author, is ordered by the Russian authorities to leave Russia within twenty-four hours.

July 27.—The cup challenger *Shamrock II.* sails for New York, from the Clyde.

A new Netherlands ministry has been organized, with Dr. Kuyper as premier.

July 28.—The British defeat the Mad Mullah in Somaliland.

Notwithstanding the Sultan has agreed to release Servians arrested in Albania, Russia is forced to repeat her demands on the Porte in peremptory terms.

The Colombian rebels are reported to be operating in large numbers near Panama.

Domestic.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

July 23.—Rear-Admiral Schley announces that he will ask for a court of inquiry on all charges against him, and afterward sue E. S. Maclay, author of "The History of the United States Navy."

Many of the firemen in the Pennsylvania hard-coal region, who have been on a strike, returned to their work.

July 24.—Secretary Long grants the request of Rear-Admiral Schley for a court of inquiry into his actions.

A stray shell from the battle-ship *Kearsarge* hits the city hall of Newport, R. I.

The breaking of several collars attaching the perpendicular cables to the main cables stops traffic on the Brooklyn bridge.

July 25.—There is a general feeling that the Brooklyn bridge has been neglected, and investigation has been started.

Admiral Dewey and Rear-Admirals Kimberly and Benham are chosen by Secretary Long for the Schley court of inquiry.

President McKinley issues a proclamation establishing free trade between Porto Rico and the United States, and declaring the organization of a civil government for the island.

July 26.—Secretary Long orders the Schley court of inquiry to meet in Washington in September.

An earthquake occurs in Nevada.

It is announced that the breaks in the Brooklyn bridge were caused by intense heat. Traffic is resumed.

July 27.—The new battle-ship *Maine* is launched at Cramps' shipyard in Philadelphia.

Heavy rains in portions of the corn belt put an end to the drought conditions.

July 28.—The present situation points to a settlement of the steel strike within a few days.

AMERICAN DEPENDENCIES.

July 22.—*Philippines:* H. Phelps Whitmarsh, a civil governor, is exonerated by the civil commission of charges made against him that he used his office for private gain.

July 23.—*Porto Rico:* Charles H. Allen resigns as governor, and Judge William H. Hunt, secretary of the island is elected governor.

July 24.—*Cuba:* T. Estrada Palma announces that both he and Gomez favor absolute independence for Cuba.

Philippines: Colonel Zurbana, an insurgent, 29 officers and 518 men surrender to the Americans in Tayabas province, Luzon, clearing the district of the revolutionary element.

July 27.—*Philippines:* A paymaster's box containing $700 is missing at Santa Cruz, supposed to have been stolen by soldiers.

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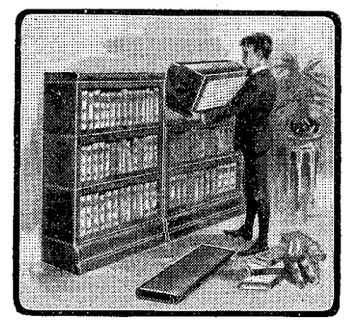

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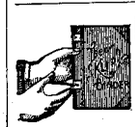

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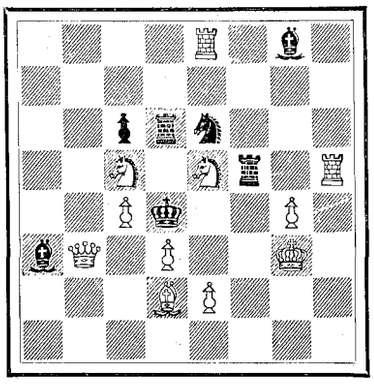
CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 577.

Composed for THE LITERARY DIGEST
By THE REV. G. DOBBS, NEW ORLEANS.
Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Eleven Pieces.

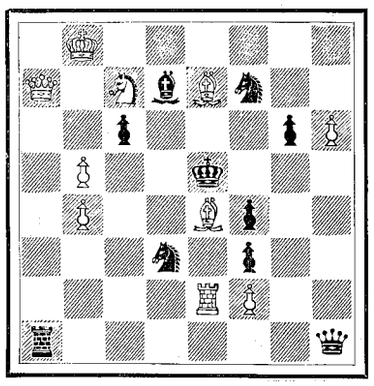
4 R 1 b 1 ; 8 ; 2 p r s 3 ; 2 S 1 S r 1 R ; 2 P k 2 P 1 ; b Q 1 P 2 K 1 ; 3 B P 3 ; 8.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 578.

Prize-Winner Dutch Chess-Association International Tourney.

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

1 K 6 ; Q 1 S b B s 2 ; 2 p 3 p P ; 1 P 2 k 3 ; 1 P 2 B p 2 ; 3 S 1 p 2 ; 4 R P 2 ; r 6 q.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 571.

Key-move, B—R 7.

No. 572.

1.	Q—K 6 / K—B 4	2. B x P (Kt 4) / Any	3. Q mates
1.	..... / K x B	2. Q—Q 6 / K—Q 5 or 6	3. Kt—K 3, mate
		2. ..... / Other	3. Kt—Kt 6, mates
1.	..... / B—Q 6	2. Kt x P ch / K x B	3. Q—B 6, mate
		2. ..... / K—B 4	3. Q—B 8, mate
1.	..... / P—Kt 5	2. Q—K 3 ch / K x B	3. Kt—Kt 6, mate

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; M. M., Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. D., New Orleans; A Knight, Hillsboro, Tex.; the Rev. J. G. L., Walhalla, S. C.; W. W. S., Randolph-Macon System, Lynchburg, Va; W. C. W. R., Boyce, Va.; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; W. J. L., Richmond, Va.

571 (only): W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; the Rev. A. De R. M., Baltimore, Md.; H. M. Coss,

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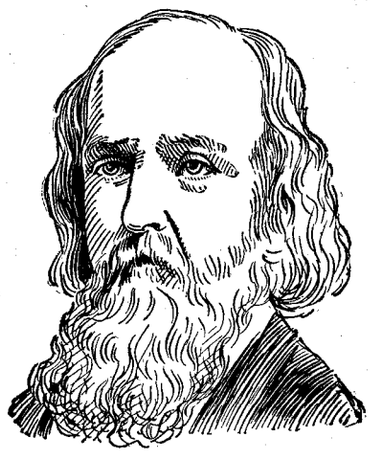

Prof. Wiechold gives pretty good advice on this subject, he says: "I am 68 years old and have never had a serious illness, and at the same time my life has been largely an indoor one, but I early discovered that the way to keep healthy was to keep a healthy stomach, not by eating bran crackers or dieting of any sort; on the contrary I always eat what my appetite craves, but for the past eight years I have made it a daily practice to take one or two of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets after each meal and I attribute my robust health for a man of my age to the regular daily use of Stuart's Tablets.

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Comments (571): "A fine specimen of pinning"—M. W. H.; "A really fine 2-er, with good mates, tho the economy is poor"—M. M.; "The key and leading idea are good"—G. D; "Remarkably fine work"—A K.; "Incomparable"—J. G. L.; "The best of this clever composition is the complexity of the false tries and the way they are defeated"—W. R. C.; "Verily deserves special interest. Only a genius could have constructed it."—A. De R. M.; "An eye-opener in beauty"—H. M. C.; "Much better than 568, tho quite easy"—G. P.; "Easy, but very beautiful"—J. E. W.; "Worthy of the prize"—W. W. S.

(572): "Unusually interesting"—M. W. H.; "Fine mates and good tries"—M. M.; "Somewhat subtle, but not free from duals. Key-move rather forward"—G. D.; "Even several duals do not mar this great problem"—A K.; "Fine piece of work"—J. G. L.; "Gave me much trouble"—W. W. S.

Concerning 571, very many solvers were caught by 1 Q x P, the answer to which is very ingenious. It looks as if this could not be answered, for if

1. ..... Kt x R mate
   R x Q ch
2. ——— or, as solvers write

1. ..... Q—K 3, or Kt x Kt mate.
   Any other
2. ——— But Q x P

is answered by P—B 5. Now, Q can not mate on K 3, and if Kt x Kt ch, R x Kt.

In addition to those reported, W. W. S., and T. J. Merrifield, St. Louis, got 570; G. P., J. T. G., Womack, Tex., and O. C. B., Humboldt, Kan., 568.

THE MARCO-HAILIG ENDING (May 4).

Several solvers have requested us to give the moves by which Marco forced a mate:

1. Kt—Kt 5 (a)	2. Kt—Q 6 ch	3. B x P	4. Kt x P ch
Kt—R 3	K—Q sq	Q—Kt 4	B x Kt(b)
5. R x P ch	6. Q—K 6 ch	7. Q—Q 6 ch	8. B—K 6 mate
K x R	K—B sq	K—B sq	

Notes.

(a) A pretty problem-move. The Kt can not be captured on account of Q—Q Kt 4.

(b) With K—B 2, Black could have held out longer.

THE VOIGT-ELSON ENDING (July 13).

Black plays R—Q 8!!

1. R x P — R x Kt
2. P x R — B x P ch and wins the R.

Notice that after Black plays R x Kt, White can not save his piece by R—R 8 ch, because this leaves the R on the fatal diagonal.

M. W. H. says that this is "very interesting," and M. M. writes: "One would think that this was composed."

A Fine "Evans."

(From "Social Chess" by James Mason.)

DUFRESNE. White.	Black.
1 P—K 4	P—K 4
2 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q B 3
3 B—B 4	B—B 4
4 P—Q Kt 4	B x Kt P
5 P—B 3	B—R 4
6 P—Q 4	P x P
7 Castles	P x P
8 Q—Kt 3	Q—B 3
9 P—K 5	Q—Kt 3 (a)
10 Kt x P	K Kt—Kt 2
11 B—R 3	R—Q Kt sq (b)

DUFRESNE. White.	Black.
12 Kt—Q 5	Kt x Kt
13 B x Kt	P—Kt 4 (c)
14 P—K 6!	B P x P
15 B x Kt	P x B
16 Kt—K 5	Q—K 5
17 Q-K Kt 3!	P—Kt 3
18 Q—Kt 5!	P—Kt 5 (d)
19 Q-B 6 (e)	R—B sq
20 Q—Kt 7	P x B (f)
21 Q R-Q sq	R—Kt 4 (g)
22 R—Q 8 ch	K x R
23 Q x R, mate.	

Notes (abridged) by James Mason.

(a) So far, these are the standard moves in the "Compromised Defense." If Black takes this Pawn he loses; it will cost him a piece at the very least.

(b) A critical juncture. Other moves are 11 ....., Castles; 12 Q R—Q sq, P—Kt 4; 13 Kt x P, R—Q Kt sq, etc.; or ....., 11 B x Kt; 12 Q x B, P—Kt 3; 13 B—Q 3, Q—R 3.

(c) Black means to shut off the Bishop which now prevents his Castling. This was the reason of his 11th move.

(d) Only now has he time for shutting off the Bishop—just when menaced with mate.

(e) Or Q R—Q sq, perhaps still more forcible.

(f) But he has no time to take the Bishop. R—Kt 4 would have enabled him to prolong the contest.

(g) Too late. At this stage there was no salvation. If, for instance, 21. ....., Q—B 4 (avoiding the catastrophe); then 22 R—Q 8 ch, K x R; 23 Kt x P ch, K—K sq; 24 Q—K 7, mate!

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